

City Council Budget Adoption Meeting Transcript – 08/12/2020

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[10:02:08 AM]

>> Mayor Adler: We can get started. We have a long day ahead of us. Today is Wednesday, August 12th, 2020. This is a city council meeting for the budget tax rate, plus some election items. Due to the pandemic, the requirements in the Texas tax code to hold the tax rate hearing and adopt the tax rate in a building that is open to the public, these proceedings are happening both at palmer auditorium for those persons who cannot appear or choose not to appear remotely, and also remotely, to protect people as much as possible from covid-19. Our agenda is largely budget and tax rate. We're also going to revote on two project

[10:03:09 AM]

connect items that we considered last Friday on August 7th. This is due to some equipment problems that occurred such that the public might not have been able to see or clearly hear our votes last week on a couple items. The entire meeting was recorded on atxn and the video is now up on the city's website, but we're going to go ahead and retake those votes, nonetheless. Since these items relate to the votes we will be taking regarding the tax rate, we will take these items up first after we hear from speakers on the -- on the whole agenda. We are set both today, we are also set for a meeting on Friday. Those are the two settings we have, today and Friday. We're going to see, work through the speakers, I

[10:04:09 AM]

think probably it'll come to us for deliberations a little before dinner. We can take up the two items that we had last week. We'll try to do the deliberations. Hopefully we can get finished tonight. If not, then we'll figure out what happens next, whether we want to just go to the meeting on Friday or whether to recess. I talked to the staff and to legal. They suggested that we kind of play it by ear and don't set a specific time with respect to what's going to be happening this evening, but I would certainly anticipate we would be coming back tonight after dinner unless we change our mind. So let's get a little bit later in the day before we add any greater level of certainty to what happens tonight, other than I think at this point we should be planning on coming back after dinner. Council member kitchen?

[10:05:11 AM]

>> Kitchen: So, we can -- thank you, mayor. So if I'm understanding correctly, we can recess and pick up again on Thursday.

>> Mayor Adler: We can. We shouldn't be planning on doing that. Let's plan on trying to get all our work done, but that certainly is a legal option that we have later if we're not able to get our work done today.

>> Kitchen: Well, I'm sorry, I wasn't clear. What I meant was that if we don't finish, we don't have to skip Thursday and come back Friday.

>> Mayor Adler: That's right, but we're not going to -- that's correct, but we're not going to plan on that now because we're not going to plan on that now. But we certainly have that legal ability available to us. Let's try to finish our work today.

>> Kitchen: Okay. Well, then the only other request I have, and I agree that we should revisit this later in the day.

>> Mayor Adler: Uh-huh.

>> Kitchen: I would like for us to set an end

[10:06:11 AM]

time. This is -- you know, it's a very, very important issue, and we've gotten a lot of materials at the last minute, and I expect we may be getting more today. So I'm certainly willing to work late, but I think that setting some kind of reasonable end time is whether or not for expectations and for us, too. On the message board, I proposed 8:00, but I'm certainly willing to go later if people want to do that. 10:00, maybe. I'm not willing to go to midnight. I don't think that it's appropriate for the public or for us to be wading through important things at that time. So I certainly hope we can get through, and I will be doing everything I can. But I don't want to be -- I want us to make that decision earlier and not make it by fiat by the end of the day.

>> Mayor Adler: I'm fine with that. Let's get into the day a little bit. There's nothing you said that I disagree with. I don't think we should be going till midnight, either, and I think

[10:07:12 AM]

that's kind of the consensus of the group. We've certainly been operating that way. Okay? What we're going to do, we're going to -- the city clerk is going to announce the times for in-person and caller times. The city clerk is going to call the names of the speakers so -- at a high level, then I'll let Jeanette speak if she wants to. We're going to begin this morning with the in-person speakers that are at palmer. When we're done with that, we're going to hear from the first batch of speakers, work in batches as we did before. That will take us to about noon. We'll take a lunch break between noon and 1:00. From 1:00 to 3:30, we'll come back and do the second batch of speakers that we have, that have signed up. We have about 250

[10:08:14 AM]

speakers that have signed up, plus the in-person speakers at palmer. And then from 3:30 to 5:00, we're going to give anybody that's walked up the opportunity just to speak as well, in case there's some more people that have come to that location. And then if we're through with speakers, we have the ability to be able to start with deliberations that would begin with a staff presentation of their budgets. There's been a budget posted that certainly if it's the will of the council, we could start as our -- kind of our base budget. We'll talk about the budget items first. We'll go through all of that, then we'll talk about riders. When we're through all of that, then we'll talk about fees, probably handling it in that kind of Progressive manner.

[10:09:17 AM]

But in any event, I anticipate a dinner break 5:00 to 6:00, and then coming back at 6:00, but certainly not working -- having an understanding of how late we'll work, let's see if we can finish it tonight and be done with that. So, if there's not anything else, discussion at this point, I would turn it over to our clerk to be starting with the speakers. Council member alter?

>> Alter: Thank you. So I just want to make sure that I'm understanding. There's the budget pieces that are the normal budget pieces, and then there are the pieces that are calling the election and doing that, the transportation bond and stuff. And when you say --

>> Mayor Adler: Oh, I'm sorry.

>> Alter: -- You're going to do all of that tonight, I'm just a little confused as to how all of that will --

>> Mayor Adler: Don't know. We're just going to see. We're going to get into

[10:10:17 AM]

it. The first two things we're going to consider are agenda items 14 and 15 because we have to take those revotes because they pertain to the budget. So I misspoke a second ago. When we start, we're going to start with 14 and 15, then we're going to get into the budget item 1, that will begin with the presentation that we talked about, and then we'll consider the budget and the components. Certainly, we have the ability to -- we have a second meeting that's set for Friday. We could just, you know, end today and go to Friday, if we're -- we certainly have the ability, as we discussed earlier, to take a recess and continue this meeting. But let's wait, let's see how far we get. Let's see where we are around dinnertime. Okay? With that said then, I'm going to turn it over to Jeanette. Are you ready to start taking the speakers? We're going to just take the speakers -- even the

[10:11:18 AM]

ones that are in person, just in audio so that everybody has the same ability to be able to appear in front of the council, whether you show up or are participating remotely, so it's just going to be audio.

>> Mayor, this is Jeanette. We are ready to begin, so we will start calling the in-person speakers.

>> Mayor Adler: Great. Thank you. Please proceed.

>> Okay. The first speaker is Stacey sass. So if you could make your way to the podium, that would be great. Courtney Santano would follow. Laurie [indiscernible] Would be next.

>> Mayor Adler: All of these speakers, by the way, today, will have one minute to speak.

>> Mayor, as they make their way to the podium, it will take us a little longer because we're in a

[10:12:20 AM]

big space. So we're queuing them up two or three at a time.

>> Mayor Adler: And that's fine. Keep everybody as safe as you can.

>> I am here to say no to another tax hike. My name is Stacey sass, I'm a business and property owner in Austin. I employ 90 people and bring millions of dollars of revenue into this city and state every year. I pay a lot of taxes, and I love Austin. But I'm tired of the death by a thousand cuts which are making this city increasingly unaffordable, our leadership implant policies which make it increasingly unlivable. We are going in the wrong direction and tax dollars are being fueled for our

[10:13:21 AM]

own demise. I don't want to end police. I don't want Austin reimagined from live music capital of the world to Texas's largest campground. I don't want to spend millions on studies which result in answers that don't work and make life here worse and more expensive, like codenext, and whatever it is you did to my bike lanes. I believe austinites don't want these things. We know how this ends. We see Portland. We've seen the movie. It's called Seattle is dying. So I say no. You cannot have more.

>> Courtney santana.

>> Good morning. My name is Courtney santana a and I'm the CEO of the right to life foundation. I'm under council member Jimmy Flannigan. I'm against the proposed budget but I'm requesting

[10:14:22 AM]

a reallocation from A.P.D. Budget to continue our crisis response work for her domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking victims and include A.P.D. Victim services as part of A.P.D. I sent an abbreviated plan 20 city council detailing four ways this reinvestment would benefit thousands of austinites every year through the hiring of more victim services counselors, providing additional training for A.P.D., and through the allocation of funding for npl case workers. This work must continue. Please strongly consider the proposed plan and continue to fund this important work in Austin. Thank you for your time and consideration, and the hard work you do for the city of Austin.

>> Cameron berry and Marisa maple, make your way to the podium. The next speaker is Laura B.

>> Child sex trafficking is a very uncomfortable subject that I'm sure you know nothing about or you could not have proposed

[10:15:22 AM]

to lower the police budget. 76,000 children a day are trafficked for sex in Texas. 5,244 children are raped, a day, in Austin for money. It is the fastest growing criminal enterprise in the world. The biggest surprise is that it is the government, CPS, the foster system, and corporations who are trafficking, empowering, and protecting this crime, as well as parents, right here in Austin, selling their own children for sex. This is happening right under our noses. People are becoming aware, and we're not going to let it continue. The police are a key part of stopping heinous crime. More money needs to be directed to eradicating this, and now that we know the good people of Austin are standing up. Ignoring this is just like the Germans ignoring the horrors of the concentration camps. We are better than that. Inform yourself and do the right thing.

>> Next speaker is Cameron berry.

[10:16:24 AM]

>> Thanks. Thank you, council. I support the base motion for community reinvestments which includes cutting the 113,772 that fund the A.P.D. Automatic license plate reader contracts. It's otherwise known as little surveillance technology that track movements of vehicles en masse. They have contracts with

[indiscernible] To operate our city's surveillance program. Alprs are fraught with privacy issues, the use is unregulated within A.P.D. And 817 other agencies with whom it shares this information. This is yet another program is weaponized

[indiscernible] Diminishes the privacy for all. This technology is becoming a tool for tracking and surveillance. Only .1 percent, one-tenth of one percent of plates were of interest to the department. Please include this crucial line item in your budget reallocation for

[10:17:25 AM]

A.P.D. Thank you.

>> Can Deven Woodard and Essie [indiscernible] Make your way to the podium. The next speaker is Marisa maples.

>> My name is Marisa, I'm not here to rattle or data readily available to our fingertips. I'm here to instill perspective. Eight days ago I heard gunshots and watched an officer die in the sheet. I then watched Austin police chief spend 90 seconds appraising the actions of his officers in a protest that resulted from the a actions of his officers. The following week a memorial was held for Garrett. Police again beating and pepperer spraying and resulted in me being pepper sprayed two inches from my face, all of which was caught on video. I recall this trauma not to bring focus to myself but to draw comparison.

[10:18:26 AM]

I experienced these things due to where I was, not due to my skin color. My trauma is minute compared to that which black and brown people experience every single day by the police, regardless of belief or circumstance. I demand an immediate 50% cut to the -- [indiscernible] From his own benefit. Thank you.

>> Deven Woodard.

>> Hello. My name is diondre, I'm a resident of district 7. I'm speaking in favor of the immediate reinvestment in long-term change plan. I ask that you approve these amendments to the budget

proposal not only for the sake of reimagining public safety, but also for the sake of inspiring belief and democracy. The average American citizen is disenchanted with government at all levels. People believe their voice doesn't matter, people believe their vote

[10:19:26 AM]

doesn't matter. We have protested, called, written emails and signed petitions. If you pass this amendment in response to our demands, we can point to this moment in history as proof that our actions can have an impact. Prove that your sole interest of becoming city councilors was to better the lives of Austin. Follow through with resolutions 95 and 96. Thank you for my time. Black lives matter.

>> Warren Berkeley. Chas Moore and Lexi; make your way to the podium. The next speaker is Effie Folberg.

>> Good morning. My name is Effie Folberg, resident of District 5, I'm here to support amendments 1, 2, and 3 for reinvestment, with the exception of the proposed cut to the records management system.

[10:20:26 AM]

I think that based off the public committee, the public safety committee meeting that was held, I think it's pretty important to have a records system to make sure we have the best data driven decision making that can be possible. I believe when I saw council member Kitchen's comment in the message board, that she wants more data to be gathered and more investigation of that data we need to gather, I think that needs to be a priority so we can ensure that we're making better informed decisions on how we allocate budget for public safety. Thank you for your time.

>> Warren Berkeley. >>

>> Warren Berkeley, District 5, with the Austin Justice Coalition. I want you to commit to

[10:21:28 AM]

your efforts to then defund the police, yield my time.

>> Chas Moore.

>> Hey, can you hear me? I'm Chas Moore, Austin Justice Coalition, District 3, first, I want to say kudos to you all. I know this is something new and exciting. We're getting ready to step into a new day and age, and I know a lot of people like the white women we heard earlier telling us that we need more of the same, that things are going to get scary, that things are going to get barbaric and chaotic. But for many

people that look like me and people in the brown community, things are chaotic because of people that wear a uniform, have a badge, and wear a gun. I admire you all for taking historic step in the right direction. This is a small and big

[10:22:28 AM]

step at the time, now it's on us, the community, to work with you all as we reimagine public safety and the police. I'm proud of you all. I think this council has been kick-ass, I'm proud of you all and look forward to working with you all as we move forward. I wish you all could have seen the three black and blue signs here. It was quite amusing to me. All right.

>> Gabby Padilla, please make your way to the podium. The next speaker is lexis Gonzalez.

>> My name is lexis Gonzalez. I'm strongly in favor of defunding A.P.D. By please a hundred million. I'm calling on my council people and mayor to vote in favor of all amendments proposed by Greg Casar and Leslie pool to defund and reallocate those funds. Not reallocate and make new departments, specialize with mental health, with social workers -- sorry -- we do not need to super glue a

[10:23:31 AM]

broken system, it needs to be rebuilt to change the attitudes of Austin citizens. Please take this opportunity to actually protect and serve our community as it has never been done before by A.P.D. Our votes depend on your decision today and I hope you make the right choice. Thank you.

>> Gabby Padilla.

>> The vigorous work by Austin residents, with the help of multiple nonprofit groups, has clearly presented the data, reasoning, vision, and plan that outline why our police department should have funds reallocated to alternative sources that address public safety and health with an equitable approach. At this point, if we can agree to see past the baseless, fear mongering propaganda that tries to scare us, we must define how much we're willing to put on the table for, a. That means standing up to

[10:24:32 AM]

chief Manley, removing positions of sworn officers, standing up to the police association, and letting them know they had their chance. It's time we take public safety back into our hands. A change is needed and a change is coming. We demand defunding and need refunding. Don't hold your breath because we can't breathe. Take off the badge, yet we can't leave. Thank you.

>> Mayor, that concludes the in-person speakers. Are you ready for telephone?

>> Mayor Adler: I think we are. Let's go ahead and get to the first batch. The consists of about a

-- this consists of alittle over 90 speakers, colleagues. We'll go through this list and then we'll break for lunch.

>> Okay. For all of the speakers in queue, if you have not

[10:25:32 AM]

yet pressed zero, please do so at this time. Thank you. The first speaker is Sam kirsch.

>> Mayor, that concludes the in-person speakers...

>> Yes? Hello? My name is Sam -- sorry, my name is Sam, I'm a resident of district 9, I'm a member of the democratic socialists of America. Thank you for these budget can you describe to A.P.D., moving towards the better approach and public safety. It's not easy to make decisions like this, so I commend your commitment and your bravery. We support you. As somebody who has been shot in the face with a less lethal round by A.P.D., we need to call out the ongoing predatory practices. These riots are merely peaceful protests, or situations where residents of Austin are being systematically intimidated with use of

[10:26:34 AM]

bicycle and horse-mounted cops, pepper spray, physical assault, and other fear and escalation tactics such as arresting people for minor misdemeanors which are often just someone with with a meg phone or marked on the streets. These are not past tense, they're ongoing protests. Ask the city council, will more Austin protesters been shot at and tear gassed like I was, or will the council make tough but necessary decisions in

[indiscernible] The police department. Please fire chief Manley. I yield my time.

>> The next speakers Ann Daley Lesch.

>> Hello. My name is Ann Daley Lesch, I'm in district 5 and I'm [indiscernible]. Council member kitchen, we cannot possibly understand and digest the implications of the proposed budget in less

[10:27:35 AM]

than 24 hours.

>> Kitchen: I can't hear her.

>> Mayor Adler: Can you ask her to get closer to the microphone?

>> ...127 million, A.P.D. Will still have access to.

>> Ms. Lesch, if you can please speak into your microphone. We cannot hear you.

>> Hello? I can speaking into my microphone.

>> Mayor Adler: We hear you much better.

>> Oh, wonderful. Okay. My name is Ann, I live in district 5 and I'm a member of district 5 for black lives. Council member kitchen, our community cannot possibly understand and digest the implications proposed police budget in less than 24 hours. Be respectful of the public engagement process. The current proposal only includes [indiscernible] Million in immediate cuts around reallocation. Funds A.P.D. Will still have access to until the mayor and council come up with an alternative. Council member kitchen,

[10:28:35 AM]

district 5, the black lives demands that you, one, de la I the vote to no sooner than Friday, two, propose a budget that moves at least 105 million out of policing and into real solutions. Three, require a change in decouple department's leadership to approve the A.P.D. Ties to deputy city manager understand four, transfer chief Manley out of the police chief role and

[indiscernible] Termination. Thank you.

>> The next speaker is Mike lipstrom.

>> Good morning. My name is mica

[indiscernible] And I'm a resident of district 5, as a member of

[indiscernible] White supremacy Austin. I'm speaking in support of communities united for racial justice at their request. I also testified at the last hearing,

[indiscernible] Attend these public hearings because they're not truly

[10:29:36 AM]

accessible to people impacted by inequities. As a result. Many people are shut out of this process. In addition

[indiscernible] Supporting people facing imminent evictions, basic resources, child care for their families. These resurgent priorities because the city has yet to meet the needs of struggling Austin residents in a comprehensive way. Ccu's demands have been clear to you for years, they were circulated again during

this budget process. Instead, members have signed up to share testimony from community members most impacted by

[indiscernible] Inequities of Austin. You will be hearing from over 65 community members who have stood up to take on this cause. Thank you.

>> Bethany Carson.

>> Good morning.

[10:30:36 AM]

My name --

>> Please unmute.

>> I'm Bethany Carson. I'm reading a statement for communities of color for racial injustice. Every year the city pushes for people's budget that is equitable, that moves city funds from the Austin police department and invest those funds directly back into the community. In this historic moment, the people of this country and our city have tomorrow afternoon clearly declare policing does not work. This is the moment to make deep and structural changes to the city budget. We've identified that safety doesn't come from policing and its many forms, it comes when people have dignified living wage jobs, housing that is truly affordable, accessible transportation, equitable and beautiful public spaces, and culturally congruent health and wellness services. This is the role of city government. We see through this current budget proposal as we understand it

[10:31:37 AM]

includes \$23 million in meet can you describe and in -- reallocations from A.P.D. --

[bell rings.

>> Emily Garrett.

>> Thank you. I'm from the Texas

[indiscernible] Project. We have a violent, broken, racist police department and we definitely need to shrink it. Our current system is impossible to fire officers who abuse power. We need to shrink the size of the police officer, hiring freeze, cut all cadet classes. You will see many more officers quit this year due to much needed changes to this budget cycle, including the fact officers will no longer be able to abuse overtime system. Protecting Austin residents from brutality,

[10:32:39 AM]

[indiscernible] Due to council member Natasha harper-madison's proposal to make them pay for litigation costs. I hope you will not fill these vacancies and see this is an opportunity to further shrink the police officer to investing in alternatives to policing. Thank you for taking these initial steps this week. Thank you.

>> Nathan lush.

>> My name is Nathan Lesch, a member of district 5 and member of undoing white supremacy Austin. I'm reading from a statement of communities of color united for racial justice. This is a reallocation change that shifts the money into accounts outside of A.P.D. But A.P.D. Will still be able to access this money. To continue the functions outlined under the these categories until the city manager and council come up with an alternative. So this represents an intended not actual or

[10:33:40 AM]

immediate change. The city council took a small step after the murder George Floyd to try to hold A.P.D. Accountable, and it seems we'll continue to only get small steps. Even during the most dire of circumstances, pandemic, unemployment, death at the hands of police, rapid displacement, our city officials aren't taking the necessary dramatic shifts to change the livelihood of our black, indigenous, and communities of color. Communities have demanded genuine substantive change and this doesn't reflect that. So this isn't a community win. When we have finished with council, we will be watching you. Thank you.

>> Paulette blank.

>> Good morning, council. My name is Paulette blank. I serve as chief of

[indiscernible]. We are simply saying reallocate money to programs for services that have been proven to work based on science and

[10:34:42 AM]

data. Doing anything else is hurting people and wasting money.

[Indiscernible] Is 100% for the reimagining plan one of the by council Greg casarthat calls for cut of A.P.D. Functions. We ask that public safety research be conducted to assess effective programs that eliminate police violence and improve community wellness. We are 100% in support of council member Natasha harper-madison's proposal to limit liability funding for A.P.D. We also urge that additional funding be allocated to increase community based programming for use, specifically black girls. We strongly urge you to consider black force by Austin community members, move forward to truly seeing an equitable and safe place for all. Thank you for your time.

[10:35:44 AM]

>> Ann Kool.

>> Hello. My name is Annie Kool and I live in district 9? Austin.- I'm calling about the budget for this upcoming fiscal year. As I said before, the austinolice department has proven to be resistant to perform and unlikely to change. As a city, we've lost confidence in A.P.D. And chief Manley. They do not make Austin safer. Additionally, their bloated budget takes away from services that could make the city safer, which is why I'm calling to support the immediate cuts to A.P.D. Proposed by councilmembers Greg Casar, Delia Garza, Natasha harper-madison, L.P. Respect, and Ann kitchen. These cuts are only \$23 million, it's a start, I'm asking councilmembers to find ways to cut at least a hundred million more from the budget. Real solutions, money for rise funds, equity office, Austin public health and low-income housing are investments that would improve our city and should be prioritized. Listen to your constituents. The city needs to change

[10:36:45 AM]

its budget and its priorities. Thank you for your time.

>> Jessica Johnson.

>> My name is Jessica Johnson, I'm resident of district 9 and black austinite. For a multitude of reasons, I support the base investments but want to speak about the academy. Several reports indicate a need to keep the academy closed the fiscal year and devote the sometime to substantially changing the education of new recruits and culture produced there. There are additional practical considerations for closing the academy for the current fiscal year. A.P.D. Starts to recruit months before the class. There are reallocation plans well in advance of the start of the academy. Commitments would start this fall for a spring 2020 class. In other words, once A.P.D. Has made commitments as to new

[10:37:45 AM]

recruits, the city will be locked in. The only way to keep all options open and ensure meaningful redesign of the process and the curriculum is to shatter it for the full year. Additionally, the estimated \$12.2 million savings allows for investment in community programs desperately needed by the Austin community. Thank you for your time.

>> Genevieve cato.

>> My name is Genevieve cato, I'm a resident of district 5 and member of undoing white supremacy Austin. I'm reading from a statement from communities of color united for racial justice. When we say defund the police, we mean defund police and policing. We fear that a number of these functions that may or may not be removed from the oversight of A.P.D. Will still be continued as reforms of policing by different names. Where is the plan to actually defund policing? The proposals don't go far enough, especially in the areas of long-term staple low-income housing

[10:38:48 AM]

for families, health equities for vulnerable families. In the current proposal, the only funding towards these real solutions is 3.7 million for aph and 6.5 million for housing and services for homeless people, which is related but distinct from funding that will slow displacement of currently housed residents. Council, we will be watching you as you deliberate.

>> Kerry Roberts.

>> This is Kerry Roberts with the greater than Austin crime commission and resident of district 8. Unfortunately, when you only have a minute, you end up sounding a warning and focusing on what your against and there's never enough time to talk about what you're for. We support reform and reinvestment. Not sacrificing public safety for political expediency. We can't flip a switch and expect police calls for service to drop, yet that's what we're acting like will happen. You can try to ignore it but the truth is

[10:39:48 AM]

criminals are victimizing our community at a higher rate than this time last year. Look at San Antonio. In 2014, the city council cut back on police cadet classes. Two years later, San Antonio ranked first in the nation for increases in murder, aggravated assault, rape, and robbery took three years to catch up. When most people call 911, they need a police officer, something is wrong, lives might be in danger, you know, one of our directors who's from Mexico says, you know, we don't know what it's like to call 911 and not know if you can trust the person on the other end of the line. So let's not take that trust for granted and let's not take our police for granted. Thank you for listening.

>> Sarah Mathis.

>> My name is Sarah mathi ser I'm resident of district 1 and a member of undoing white supremacy Austin. I'm preaged from a statement from communities of color united for racial justice. We're demanding that the

[10:40:50 AM]

full 220 million be reallocated into real solutions. 90 million for the rise fund, 4 million for the equity office. 10 million for Austin Hubble, and 115 million for low-income housing, specifically for a public strike fund to purchase land and apartment buildings and to support families with homes

[indiscernible]. City council has said time and time again from the city budget is a moral document. To this day, what we continue to see from them is a failure to put these words into action, concrete investment into our communities. Making sure our black indigenous and communities of color cannot only live here but thrive here. The city must prioritize an infrastructure to make better, more equitable decisions at all levels, or all of this energy and effort will simply reinforce the situations that communities of color have endured in this city. Council, we will be watching you as you deliberate. Thank you.

>> A. J. Jesaska.

[10:41:51 AM]

>> Hi. I live in district 7 and I'm a member of undoing white supremacy Austin. Sorry, my -- I'm having issues with my audio.

[Indiscernible]

>> Speaker? If you could get closer to your microphone?

>> Of this 220 million, at least half of that should go to different housing strategies. Council must use the tools and recommendations from the report and the

[10:42:52 AM]

people's plan, such as the housing fund used to acquire and rehabilitate low-income housing. Councilmembers, please know that we will be watching you as you deliberate. The eyes of Austin are on you to make sure you support real solutions for communities and not continue to fund violent policing.

>> Marsha Nichols.

>> My name is Marsha Nichols and I live in district 10. I ask you to vote yes for a budget package in requirement with the proposals implementing are reallocation for police department resources. Having said that, I also recognize that our community needs an effective police presence and that the vast majority of austinites are public servants including those within the Austin police department. It's time to give them tools and training they need to serve all members of our community, especially our brothers and sisters of color and our most vulnerable and marginalized citizens. It's time for a break in

[10:43:55 AM]

police academy classes

[indiscernible] Best practices curriculum. It's time to reallocate resources from divisions that do not rightfully belong within the police department's purview, like forensics and vernal affairs. It's time to use the reallocated resources to provide public safety in different ways, expanding EMS, funding mental health response, the needs of that importance and working towards solutions for community members. It's time to reinvest in our community and police department in a way that supports equity, justice, and opportunity for all. Thank you for your time and conversation.

>> Kiki [indiscernible]

>> Hello, council. Protect and serve, more like terrorize and traumatize. We can't possibly police our way to a safer community. My name is Kiki. I live in district 3 and I'm calling in support of defunding A.P.D. By 50%, passing Casar and Harper-Madison's reinvestment long-term change plan, along with

[10:44:56 AM]

pool, Flannigan, and Alter's supplemental amendments, also to cut the next three cadet classes. Mayor Adler, on August 5th in your address, you talked a big talk and quoted John Lewis in regards to getting in good trouble. Seems to me if you really believed that you would have taken initiative to have Spencer Cronk and Chief Manley from their job roles. Both of these men have shown over and over a lack of support and passion for the community through actions and inactions. If Black Lives really mattered to you all, let's make sure that it is reflective of this budget. Prove to the community that you're not choosing profit over people. You still have so much valuable time left in your term to make these changes that will truly benefit us all. Thank you.

>> Karen Majik.

>> Hello. My name is Karen. I'm the chair of the Austin/Travis County

[indiscernible] Policy board. I'd like to

[10:45:56 AM]

commend the focus at council member, especially council member Harper-Madison is placing on sustainable transformational change in our city. Additionally, I would like to thank Mayor Pro Tem Garza on her leadership of food access, keeping it at the center of conversations. The board has two recommendations this year that speak to investment of food system, to address food access and food incite, including continued funding for immediate undergraduate resources like caregiver meals and

ppe. This necessary funding to address acute needs highlights our call for transformational change in our local food systems, change that will be long-term and collaborative with a range of solutions to address all aspects of our food system, from production through distribution and access. Focusing on systemic change is the best chance for our local food system to be robust enough to survive future shocks and work to address systemic inequities. This is our opportunity to invest sufficient resources to understand this mental and remake our food system into one that is economically and just. The food policy board

[10:46:56 AM]

looks forward to continuing collaboration are you to strengthen our local food system. Thank you.

>> Molly Moltz.

>> Hi. My name is Molly Holtz. I live in district 3 and I'm a member of undoing white supremacy Austin. I will be playing audio testimony on behalf of communities of color united racial justice. This is a continuation of the testimony abbreviation given by Mia pilgrim.

>> Support non-racially based tools to give communities of color the right and ability to stay and fortify their homes, particularly in a floodplain. We as a city have allowed revital litigation plans and [indiscernible] Development to render most of the east side unrecognizable with whole neighborhoods gone. Pushed out culturally rich black and brown

[10:47:56 AM]

communities who learned to rely on each other when they could not rely on the city. The consequences of the city's indifference, hostility led to criminalization, financial vulnerability, and on too many occasions, death at the hands of A.P.D.

[Buzzer sounding]

>> Council members, please know that we are watching you as you deliberate.

>> For all the speakers in queue, if you haven't yet hit zero, please do so at this time. Thank you. The next speaker is Andrea black.

>> This is Andrea black. I live in district 1 and I'm a member of undoing white supremacy Austin. I'm reading a continuation of the video previously begun by Mia pilgrim.

>> Providing avenues of

[10:48:57 AM]

low-income residents, Austin require substantial investments from the city by way of --

>> Speaker, please turn your computer or TV volume off.

>> [Indiscernible] Require additional money to encourage and preserve low-income housing and end [indiscernible]

>> Councilmembers, we'll be watching you as you deliberate.

>> Ruben Rivera,

[indiscernible]

>> Yes. My name is Ruben Rivera

[indiscernible], Sr. I'm the same individual who has been complaining about the police harassment for over 13 years, five different locations. The one area that I highly recommend, because

[10:49:58 AM]

I have personal, personal experience with, is the undercover or plain clothes police officers of Austin police department. And also the many complaints that I filed to the police monitor/oversight, as well as complaints to internal affairs. My main problem right now is with the -- with the ranking of the police department as well. I can't understand how you go up the chain of command and how a lieutenant, which I'm not going to say his name, which I have it on my contact, which I told what I'm going through, he actually is willing to accept the word or protect his police officers, thinking that I'm doing something wrong instead of them. And I'm tired of the police department protecting the police.

[Buzzer sounding] They need to be aware there are consequences within the police department, they need to take.

>> Laura burns.

[10:51:01 AM]

>> Hello. My name is Lauren burns and I'm a resident of district 5. I'm calling today to voice my general support for the immediate community investments and reimagining plan, as well as the attached amendments and budget riders. The one item I wish to understand better is regarding the records management and data analysis of A.P.D. If updating the system helps to hold A.P.D. Accountable, then I would reconsider the source of that cut, but I especially appreciate council member harper-madison's budget riders which ensure fair community participation beyond the scope of this week's votes, and I support restricting any A.P.D. Budget spending for the second half of the year until receiving explicit approval from the city council at a midyear review. Thank you for your hard work and collaboration in

bringing this plan together and for compiling it into a spreadsheet that is easy for the public to understand and access. Thank you very much.

>> Eliana Ruben.

[10:52:04 AM]

>> Hi. Can you hear me?

>> Yes. Go ahead.

>> Okay. Thank you. Hi. My name is Eliana Ruben. I live in district 9. I urge you to reject any police proposal that does not cut A.P.D. Funding by at least 50%, proposed by

[indiscernible]. Others have listened to their constituents and are starting to make historic changes to systems. I hope we do the same. These systemic changes have been a long time coming, none of these demands are new, but especially with the rise of covid-19, we do not need more policing, we need more ambulances, more economic assistance, we need more housing for the unhoused. Spending too much money on A.P.D. Is just an expensive and violent band-aid that when we have the money to address the root of these problems. I am asking that you hold the well-being of all austinites over the harmful status quo that

[10:53:04 AM]

clearly only benefits and safeguards rich and white lives, begin the necessary pose for defunding A.P.D. Our votes depend on it. Thank you.

>> Lauren Ross.

>> My name is Lauren Ross. I live in district 5 and I'm a member of undoing white supremacy Austin. I'm going to be broadcasting the continuing testimony of Mia pilgrim with communities of color united for racial justice.

>> I'm happy to hear about the plan for domestic violence

[indiscernible], also work towards a time when

[indiscernible] Becomes obsolete because

[indiscernible] A monumental economic feat and target the root causes of gender-based violence and the

[10:54:07 AM]

vulnerability

[indiscernible] People receive shelter. Austin public health serves the most vulnerable in the city. The level we have funded Austin public health is criminal. And the repercussions of which the whole city now feels during this pandemic.

>> Thank you. Councilmembers, know that we will watch you as you deliberate.

>> Matt fox.

>> Hello. My name is Matt fox and I'm a resident of the far southside of district 5. I'm a member of

[indiscernible] For black lives and my council member is Ann kitchen. I'd like to speak in support of the base motion for community reinvestments but I'd also like to see council member harper-madison's idea added to the amendment. There's an average of 2.36 million of general fund on liability each year since 2016. That makes a.p.d.'s five-year total, which accounts for 41% of all

[10:55:07 AM]

liability reserved fund expenditures. We support limiting this amount to \$600,000, which is approximately 25% of their average expenditures, but in fact we support A.P.D. Paying themselves for all liability incurred due to police misconduct, the 600,000 is a good first step. Significantly limiting the amount of taxpayer dollars that exist outside of the allocated police budget that can be used to cover the cost of settlements will give management incentive to enforce its own policies and rules. Thank you for your time.

>> Tabitha Hamilton.

>> Hello. My name is Tabitha. I live in district 9. I represent btla. I support the Greg Casar, Delia Garza, harper-madison, pool, and kitchen amendment proposal, it's a start, but it really needs to be a 50% cut to A.P.D.

[10:56:08 AM]

Budget. I feel it's important to decouple police funding from public health related responses because black and trans and gender diverse people do not feel safe asking police for help. I'm pushing a 50% cut and more housing for the unhoused because it directly improves the quality of life for not only black Austin residents but the black trans Austin community. Thank you.

>> Elizabeth

[indiscernible]

>> Hi. My name is Beth muffitt. I'm a resident of district 8, Paige Ellis and I'm a member of undoing white supremacy Austin. I'm reading from a statement of communities of color united for racial justice that I agree with. When we say reimagine public safety, it's a step beyond defunding the

[10:57:08 AM]

police. It means let's imagine a world where we don't rely on cops, cages, and other punitive approaches to keep us safe. Let's imagine a world where our basic needs are met and we can create new ways to care for each other and collectively learn healthy ways that we have been socialized to act with each other and deal with our trauma that lead to further violence. To each of our city council members, we are in a moment where we finally have a ground swell of community support to defund policing, including, but not limited to, A.P.D., and defund community needs. You have the power to use this moment to make bold changes that depart from the city of Austin's legacy of using incremental reform to relost, true solutions that community of color have long --

[buzzer sounding] This is a baby step. We are watching you as you deliberate on this.

>> Jan margelis.

[10:58:10 AM]

>> My name is Jan

[indiscernible]. I police chief in -- I live in [indiscernible]. Testimony from communities of color united for racial justice.

>> City council has previously committed to fund Austin public health at a sustained level of

[indiscernible]

>> Mayor Adler: We can't hear that. Can she get closer to the microphone?

>> Yeah.

[Indiscernible]

>> Mayor Adler: Still cannot hear.

>> Two million dollars -- million dollars.>> We'll call her

[10:59:12 AM]

>> Grace Hanson, please unmute.

>> Can you hear me?

>> Yes, go ahead.

>> Hello? I'm sorry. Hello, my name is grace Hanson. I'm a resident of district 5 and an Austin dsa member. I'm urging you to support reallocating 50% of APD's budget to real community care. Move internal affairs and forensics out of the oversight of APD, suspend all incoming cadet classes, we move Brian Manley from office and also Ken Cassaday's abhorrent behavior. It will save lives. I want to thank those of you who have committed to budget amendments and with the community in this fight. I personally pledge my support to those of you who do listen to your constituents and the rest of you who have not yet committed to support, we are watching your deliberation. I and many others in Austin have your back as you

[11:00:12 AM]

support these amendments and the budget cuts and will continue supporting you and working with you as we move forward to make community care work. Thank you for your time.

>> Crystal Ericsson Collins.

>> Hello, my name is crystal Ericsson Collins and I am a member of undoing white supremacy Austin. I am continuing a statement from communities of color united. Yes, this means reducing sworn officers, not just shuffling them around. Yes, this is what we are really asking to reduce the size of APD so that it cannot exercise the scale of violence against our community. Reimagining public safety does not simply mean reorganizing departments or taking the same functions that APD currently performs and moving them, complete with their current staff and culture to a civilian department. It does not mean delaying

[11:01:13 AM]

things we could defund now because council does not yet have the political courage to fire sworn officers. Even when talking about alternatives such as mental health crisis response and addiction treatment, we will need the leadership of directly impacted people to ensure the alternatives we create prioritize their agency and are not infiltrated by a policing mentality. Council, we will be watching as you deliberate. Thank you.

[Buzzer].

>> For the speakers on the line, if you have not pressed zero, please do so now. Thank you. The next speaker is Seneca Savoy.

>> Hi. I'm a member of

[indiscernible], resident of district 4. A firm supporter of the amendment. Many of these cuts would have seemed entirely impartial years or months --

[11:02:13 AM]

impossible years or months ago, but unprecedented amounts of contact and organization has got us to this point. I know we have a lot further to go. Contracts and other things keep us from going as far as we might need to. But many of you are taking a risk here and we understand that. And just like with homeless decriminalization and other things like before, we're committing to organizing and make sure that we don't go back. We'll be here for the next six months, the reimagine process, we'll be here to make sure that as much of that money goes into social services that are crucially needed to save people's lives. And we'll be throughout in the streets even though day after day, protesters are getting smaller, violence is escalating and you see more crowing about it from those in the union.

[Buzzer].

[11:03:14 AM]

>> Jen margelis.

>> I live in district 1, I'm a member of undoing white supremacy Austin. I will continue playing the video from earlier.

>> Council had previously committed to fund Austin public health at the same level as other peer cities. Council has gone back on that problem,

[indiscernible] Police budget. With an additional \$10 million added every year the next five years. In 2025 Austin public health

[indiscernible]

>> Mayor Adler: If the speaker could get closer to the microphone, I think we could hear better.

[11:04:19 AM]

>> We will be watching you as you deliberate.

[Buzzer].

>> Mayor, they're playing someone else's testimony, so when that happens, it's hard to hear. They're playing -- they say they're playing somebody else's testimony.

>> The speaker has a TV on or that kind of thing, is that what you're saying?

>> No, no. It's like a continuation, it sounds like. So they enter themselves and say they're playing the rest of --

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. I understand that. It's just hard to hear that.

>> Garza: I was going to say the same. It's really hard and I wasn't sure if we were allowing donated time is what essentially it is.

>> Okay. The next speaker is Kate brazeni.

>> Hi. This is Kate with the Texas

[11:05:19 AM]

harm reduction alliance. First I want to say thank you for this step in the right direction. We do support the immediate reinvestment and long-term change plans and I also want to say thank you to the thousands of people who have made this moment possible by making calls, emails, etcetera. Investments in public health strategies like harm reduction and housing not only provide alternatives, but they are preventive. A serious investment in prevention means the strongly felt need for a large police force evaporates because we've we placed it with safety and wellness. A 23-million-dollar investment is only a small first step and compared to the decades long investment of over 400 million in police we still have a long way to go. I hope you're in this for the long run and I caution if we only take a small timid step towards alternative and then pull back, never fully die

[11:06:20 AM]

vesting from police. Our efforts to redefine safety will fail.

[Buzzer].

>> Lauren Ortell.

>> I am Lauren and I live in district 1 and I'm grateful for the new amendments on the budget. I support the base motion for community reinvestments. While Austin experiences relatively low rates of violence, it is still a public health priority especially for victims and survivors. I support investments in alternative violence prevention projects, including the ask from the gun violence task force for an initial investment of \$1.85 million. This would include an office of violence prevention and a plan to build out community led solutions. That prioritize the needs of individuals and neighborhoods disproportion nationally impacted by persistent and concentrated levels of structural, community and police violence. I would also like to see a trauma recovery center in

[11:07:21 AM]

Austin as they are proven models of violence prevention. Thank you for considering these important shifts in the budget.

>> James Casey.

>> I live in district 5 and I'm a member of undoing white supremacy Austin. I'm using my time today to continue the testimony from Maya pill graham on behalf of communities of color united for racial justice.

>> [Indiscernible]. Institutional racism. In turn the equity office was created and made amazing

[11:08:21 AM]

strides, however, with a staff of seven for a city staff of over 14,000, they need more. We need four million dollars for the equity office and support staff in this programming. They must have the ability and the staffing

[indiscernible].

[Buzzer].

>> Jesse pedestrianer grass.

>> Pell low, Jesse from -- hello, Jesse from district 7. I want to thank the stint for putting in the work to realize the demands of the community. Councilmember Casar's amendment to cut and decouple funds from APD's budget is a good starting point, however we have to recognize that we're not yet making that sea change. The community is demanding

[11:09:22 AM]

significantly more funding for constructive services like ems, permanent supportive housing, food access and the like. While this budget starts that process of reinvestment by breaking APD's institutional power, that process cannot end until APD is a minor line item in a budget that prioritizes the needs of our people, our real treasure in food, housing, health, well-being, harm reduction. Please remember as we've seen so clearly these past few months, all APD can ever do is violently punish, abuse and destroy. And we must die vest and eventually abolish. Do not stop here. Go further. We're watching.

>> Audie go.

>> Hi. Can you hear me.

>> I'm a resident of

[11:10:23 AM]

district 5. Thank you for hearing our testimony today. Like I said in the last city council meeting, I stand with the communities of color united demands to cut APD's budgets by at least 50% and reinvest these funds into real solutions, 90 million to rise fund, four million to the equity office, 10 million to Austin public health and 115 million to low income housing. While the joint city council budget proposal is a start, the Austin city council needs to go farther than that. This proposal includes only 23 million in immediate cuts and reallocation versus the 22 million in grassroots leadership and the ccu are demanding. When the public says we want to defund the police, we mean we want to significantly decrease the size of APD [buzzer]

[11:11:26 AM]

>> Ed Bookwalter.

>> Hello, my name is Ed Bookwalter and I'm a resident of district 8. Crime is on the rise. Murder is up 64%, auto theft is up 30%, building theft 24. And the list goes on and on. The criminals have not gone away. We must get these criminals off the street. During these times you cannot cut off the service and cancel cadet classes. We can't go back to 2012 staffing levels when Austin has 150,000 more residents. In addition, until we graduate new cadet classes, you cannot cut overtime. This will ensure that you will not have officers available when you need them. My suggestion to you, council, is that you take the time to learn what policing in Austin is really

[11:12:26 AM]

like and ride along with our fine officers during their shifts to see what they really do day in and day out. Thank you for your time.

>> Dorris Adams.

>> My name is Dorris Adams and I live in district 5. And I'm a member of undoing white supremacy Austin. I'm playing the continued testimony of Maya pilgrim on behalf of the communities of color united for racial justice.

>> We're in the position we're in because of the callous development from social security made by the country, the state and the city. This pandemic has made that more evident than ever. Folks are trying to figure out childcare and schooling so they can work, food so

[11:13:28 AM]

they can eat, rent so they can keep their roof over their heads. They need direct cash assistance. And while the pandemic continues, they need it in more than one time payment. We want the remainder of the \$220 million to go to rise fund and for families to be eligible for multiple payments as needed.

[Buzzer].

>> Councilmembers, please know that we will be watching you deliberate. Thank you.

>> Laura Castro.

>> This is corby Castro, president of the greater Austin crime commission. I appreciate your commitment to public safety and know that these decisions are needed. Crime is up this year and we are concerned. Please carefully consider cuts to police positions, cadet classes and overtime. For more than 20 years my organization has worked to keep everyone safe in the community, not just some neighbors, every

[11:14:28 AM]

neighborhood. We support the city manager's public safety task force and look forward to participating in it. There are already many worthwhile issues to study. We also support proposals to fund alternative responses to domestic violence and mental health calls. Regardless of agreements, please send a strong message to the community this week that you support first responders. The dedicated professionals in our public safety departments risk everything for us each and everyday. Thank you.

>> Kathie Mitchell.

>> Hi, this is Kathie Mitchell and I'm happy to say that just liberty supports the base motion reinvestment plan and all the work made by every one of you. Opponents may try to tell you you tried to do this quickly. You tried everything else over many years. The whistle blower who showed the problems at APD's

[11:15:29 AM]

crime lab filed the original complaint in 2010, resulting in what only can be called a coverup. The community process around the crime lab has dragged on for years leading to a clear call to move forensics out of APD. In 2011 the whistle blower who reported efforts for the closure rates in about the sex crimes and only to have that whistle blower thrown out and someone else put in line. There have been calls for alternating to policing for crime victims. In 2016 the shooting of teen David Joseph during the first period of unrest around policing in America -- [buzzer]

>> Rachel manning.

>> My name is Rachel manning. I live in district 1 and I'm a member of undoing white

[11:16:30 AM]

supremacy Austin. I am playing audio testimony on behalf of communities of color united for racial justice. We are doing this today because council refused to accept video testimony from those most directly impacted by the policing and budgeting system that we have. So we are playing the videos this way.

>> [Indiscernible]. We now have broad community wide support.

[Indiscernible]. For holistic community care. This cannot be wasted. This cannot be delayed. Your words must not be followed. Your deeds [indiscernible]. The budget [indiscernible], we will hold you accountable. Thank you.

[Buzzer].

>> City councilmembers, please know that we will be

[11:17:31 AM]

watching you as you deliberate. The eyes of Austin are on you to make sure you support real solutions for communities and not continue violent policing.

>> Mayor Adler: Just for the record, in case anybody ever looks back, I'm not considering that to be donated time for two reasons. The first is that the person who is donating the time is actually participating and present as opposed to just calling in. And second, donating time results in someone having more than their one minute allotted time to speak, and that's not the case here either. From a first amendment standpoint if someone wants to get up and play a recording, I think that's something that is proper for them to do. All right. Please go ahead and continue the discussion. Next speaker.

>> Holly belle.

[11:18:32 AM]

>> My name is holly belle. I live in district 9 and a member of undoing white supremacy Austin. I am playing testimony on behalf of communities of color united for racial justice. And this is the testimony of Paula Rojas.

[Inaudible].

>> Hi, my name is holly and I'm with communities of

[11:19:34 AM]

color for racial justice --

[buzzer].

>> Mayor Adler: Thank you for participating.

>> Courtney Harris.

>> Hello, my name is Courtney and I live in district 5. I'm also cab latin with undoing white supremacy Austin, and I will again continue to play audio on behalf of communities of color united for racial justice. And this is a clip from sue Gabriel.

>> I'm sue Gabriel, communities of color united. For the next budget cycle, at least half of the APD budget must be divested and reallocated to community services.

[11:20:34 AM]

Because of the coronavirus and the scarcity of jobs, a significant amount of money must be allocated to the rise fund to help families and individuals with nutritional and household needs, rent, utilities, health care and other bills. Continuing financial help is needed, not a one time amount.

[Buzzer]

>> Thank you for listening. Please know that we will continue to watch as you deliberate. The eyes of Austin are out to make sure you support real solutions for communities and not continue funding violent policing. Thank you for your time.

>> Mayor Adler: Thank you for participating.

>> Haven Trahan.

>> Hello P I'm a member of district 5. I'd like to thank Greg Casar, Leslie pool, Natasha harper-madison, Delia Garza,

[11:21:35 AM]

Flannigan and Ann kitchen for the initial proposition to defund the police and move forward with defunding over the long run. However, I don't think these go far enough at all just yet. I specifically support removing internal affairs from APD's oversight, completely reworking the academy and instead funding social services like EMS, mental health services and homeless resources. And furthermore, the community will join in in working for these changes. If you fund these resources like homeless services, mental health services, and create the jobs people will join and we will keep working. We're already doing the work. We're already out there everyday, either feeding the homeless or creating that good trouble that you talked about, mayor Adler. We're trying to tell you what we want.

[Buzzer]. We're trying to tell you that we will help. Thank you.

>> Andrew massmore.

[11:22:40 AM]

>> Hello. My name is drew and I live in district 9. I work at UT Austin and I'm calling today to support councilmember Casar's amendments to the proposed budget to begin defunding APD. I support defunding because frankly I'm terrified what would happen if somebody in my family experienced a mental health crisis or emergency and the police got called. In my life I've seen terrible things happen when you have militarized police call on for problems they are not capable of happening and I think canceling the next three cadet classes, introducing police overtime and funding for vacant APD positions is a great first step for thinking about alternatives to demilitarized policing in Austin. I believe we need to increase the money in budget for mental health first response and I'll fight for those of you on city council who support this measure. Thank you very much.

[11:23:44 AM]

>> [Calling name].

>> Hello. I'm a constituent of Pio Renteria. We demand that you delay the vote and fulfill other demands of communities of color because black, brown and indigenous community members demand divestment from APD to result in real solutions. Whatever you think you have to lose it is nothing compared to the people of color lost due to this council and its predecessors that gave APD massive growing budgets and the ability to kill people of color with impunity because of the worst police contract in the country. Councilmember Pio I'm in your district and I and my young friends in the district were watching your last vote when you voted against police reform. You gaining our votes depends on all the upcoming votes to divest and we know how to organize and are not afraid to talk to voters. My partner and I are constituents who have had our cars broken into and stolen, but we know that people of color have been

[11:24:44 AM]

stolen from for generations and to this play we need real solutions to be invested in that are postponed by ccu to stop this intergenerational harm and these cycles that are based on poverty and disposition.

[Buzzer].

>> Sheri gerston burger.

>> My name is Sheri and I'm in district 9. I'm a member of undoing white supremacy Austin and I'm continuing playing audio testimony on behalf of communities of color united for racial justice.

[11:25:47 AM]

>> I will not lay out all your demands yet again. There are a lot of other folks that are putting in their testimonies with clear demands that we think year after year after year, but what I wanted to talk to you about is this year is different because this year our demands are resonating and amplified by up risings happening all over the country, including our city. And we are all exhausted, but we will not back down.

[Buzzer].

>> MI kel blue.

>> I I am a member of undoing white supremacy Austin. I'm continuing playing audio testimony on behalf of communities of color united for racial justice.

[11:26:50 AM]

>> The equity office must be fully funded to provide more staff, programming and community engagement work.

[Indiscernible] Decisions must be made with the direction of the equity office. Doctors, nurses, technicians and epidemiologists. The city must invest in modern medical technology and laboratory equipment. More [indiscernible] Are also needed.

>> Councilmembers, please know that we will be watching you as you deliberate. The eyes of Austin are on you to make sure [buzzer] Thank you so much.

>> Caitlin Maclin.

[11:27:54 AM]

>> I live in district 1 and I'm working with undoing white supremacy Austin. I'm also playing testimony on behalf of communities of color united for racial justice, continuing mizzou's testimony.

>> [Indiscernible] More money and resources are needed now, not some time in the future. The city must retain and take care of existing low income communities instead of continually abolishing them and displacing residents. City land must also be used for low income housing in addition to divesting from the APD, the city council and the city manager must stop the theft of our tax monies and our land by giving them a way of corporate welfare. Take care of the welfare of the people of Austin.

>> Councilmembers, please know that we will be watching you as you deliberate. The eyes of Austin are upon

[11:28:55 AM]

you to make sure you support real solutions for communities, examine

[indiscernible] [Buzzer]. Please do not continue funding violent policing.

[Buzzer].

>> Amy crazman.

>> Hello, can you hear me?

>> Yes, go ahead.

>> I want to discuss briefly about the critical need for harm reduction methods for individuals with mental illness and substance abuse disorders. Currently they don't treat substance use. It needs to be full treatment of care. So with the goal of investing in mental health care in Austin, ski whether anyone listening to me. I know it's hard to listen

[11:29:55 AM]

to the testimonies, but I want to know if anyone listening to me has been to the unit, any unit at Austin state hospital, observe for a longer period than 30 minutes, has talked with patients, nurses, techniques, with a goal of improving mental health care. If they've talked and actively listened. So instead of funneling ever increasing amounts of money to police units and jails and prisons, we need a major overhaul of Austin's mental health systems. Mayor Adler, councilmembers -- [buzzer].

>> Jay Williamson. >>

>> Hello, my name is Jay Williamson and I'm a resident of district 9, current UT student. I'm speaking today I want to express my concern with cutting 150 officer positions in both the short and long-term, however I'm thankful for the work done

[11:30:55 AM]

by our city staff and excited about the reimagining process as well as the possible improvements to be made across public safety. As the city continues this process, I implore data driven approaches that allow for smart and effective reform without jeopardizing the overall wellness of this community. Austin is a rapidly growing city and resorting to 2014 police staffing levels raises a lot of hard questions on whether Austin will become less safe. I ask the council to make sure they're making evidence-based decisions that don't leave our neighborhood worse for wear. Thank you.

>> While the speakers in -- for all the speakers in queue, if you have yet to press zero, please do so now. The next speaker is

>> Hi, my name is Katherine Mcardle and I'm a resident of district 9. I'm calling in support of the base motion for community reinvestment. While the whole motion is important and I urge council

[11:31:55 AM]

to make sure all the items get completed, as someone who believes in the value of science, I want to show support for decoupling forensics from APD. It should be run by scientists committed to two forensics, not police investigators who might be biased. It needs to be independent of the police department and here in Austin we emcee that need from the demize of APD's lab. An independent crime lab led by scientists launched today can start with scientific best practices and avoid the many pitfalls that lead to wrong convictions

[indiscernible]. I urge you to require this change to be completed quickly. Thank you.

>> Blanca Alvarado.

>> Good morning. I am a resident of district 4. I am calling to give my support for the immediate

[11:32:56 AM]

reinvestment and long-term change plan proposed by my councilmember Casar, councilmember harper-madison. I'm glad that this proposal for public safety is publicly supported by councilmembers Ellis, kitchen, pool, Flannigan and Renteria. I am unclear if tovo, district 9, and alter, district 10, are in support of this, as well as mayor Adler. I want to speak to those of you who have not publicly supported this proposal and encourage you to be bold and courageous during these challenging times that are calling for structural change. I know change is hard and scary, but I believe part of the reason you ran for public office was to make positive contributions and support those most vulnerable. Those who are peacefully

protesting who have taken their frustration, they're anger, despair as well as their hope out to the streets are putting their lives on the line.

[Buzzer]

[11:34:02 AM]

[Indiscernible].

[Buzzer].

>> Ana Stewart. Ana Stewart, please unmute.

>> Hello?

>> Go ahead.

>> I'm Ana Stewart with district 1, playing communities of color united

[indiscernible].

>> Even defunding APD is not getting at the real problem because what we would need is something much more substantive.

[Indiscernible] It is a

[11:35:04 AM]

monster that is racial capitalism that for hundreds of years has exploited black, indigenous and other people of color

[indiscernible] The wealth in our country, the wealthiest country in the world.

>> Councilmembers please know that we will be watching you as you deliberate. The eyes of Austin are out to make sure you support elusions for communities and not continue

[indiscernible].

[Buzzer].

>> Marcus Rosen.

>> Can you hear me?

>> Yes, go ahead.

>> Mayor, council, good morning. I hope that during these budget deliberations and over the coming years we begin to discover what reimagining public safety will mean. It's a phrase being used often by our leadership, but all we end up with is

[11:36:05 AM]

incremental changes, money being shuffled around and our racist, sexist and violent policing system being left essentially as is. The leadership has allowed such toxic environment to exist in the first place while actively fighting change and this reimagining will mean nothing. Now is not the time for baby steps. Please vote on a budget that reflects the demands of Austin citizens. How many more precious lives need to be lost or put in harm's way by those sworn to protect before we decide it's a good time to up end the status quo. Listen to the demands of grassroots leadership. Listen to the demands of the community you're here to serve. Thank you very much. Have fun today.

>> Gregory fox.

>> Good morning, I'm Gregory, resident of district 10 and I've lived in Austin my entire life. I ask that you give every piece of support that you

[11:37:06 AM]

can to the Austin police department to address this increase in crime and help our citizens feel safe in all parts of Austin. The idea that in the face of a crime wave there's talk of defunding any portion of APD is crazy to me. If there are any specific laws or policies that need to be updated, I ask that you focus your energy there. The APD officers are charged with enforcing the existing laws, not creating them. APD follows the national standards and best practices already and not giving them the resources that they need to enforce the laws and increase safety during this crime wave feels like a mistake. Thank you for your time.

>> Sarah Bentley.

>> Good morning, council. My name is Sarah Bentley and I live in district 1 and I'm a member of undoing white supremacy Austin. I am going to be playing audio testimony on behalf of communities of color united for racial justice.

[11:38:10 AM]

>> You, [indiscernible], you support that monster in our city. So I want you to know that we are watching you. We are watching mostly during the budget cycle more than ever before

[indiscernible] You work for us. Because if you don't notice, what we've had is a swell of collective people power like you've never seen before in your lifetime. And that means numbers at a whole other scale.

[Buzzer].

[Buzzer].

>> Cole kuniff.

>> Good morning, mayor and council. My name is Cole and I'm a policy analyst for the greater Austin crime

[11:39:11 AM]

commission. We support the city manager's public safety task force and will be a constructive partner in it. We all want the same thing, which is to keep our community safe. What concerns me is the lack of consideration of relevant data and this year's police budget debate. No work of analysis was done to support that 150 sworn officer positions could be cut. Same goes for overtime. Taxpayer funded studies have shown that Austin needs more officers, not less. Also researchers have consistently proven the negative correlation between police staffing and crime rates. Crime rates are already trending upward and if research has told us anything, cutting officers will not solve that problem. All that being said I am excited about the reimagining discussion over the next several months, analyzing how the police department operates and is held accountable is important. During this process I hope to see decisions made in data and research rather than in political expediency. Thank you for your time.

>> If there are any speakers that have yet to press zero, please do so now. Thank you.

[11:40:12 AM]

Next speaker is Katherine rovenski.

>> Hi. My name is Katherine. I'm a member of district 5 for black lives. I support the immediate reinvestment in long-term change plan and I appreciate councilmember kitchen's support. One area that I don't see fully addressed in the proposals is ending funding to initiatives that specifically target minority and immigrant communities with either surveillance or increased patrol presence. In the previous public comment session I recounted a really frightening and traumatic traffic stop I was involved in in northeast Austin where I was surrounded by 10 officers. And I just feel like those kind of programs, like they're sometimes billed as community policing, but what they really are is terrifying. A person in that situation is terrified and they don't know what's going on. And that is absolutely not building relations with the comment. So if we can just make sure

[11:41:13 AM]

that we are not funding programs that specifically target minority and immigrant communities within Austin. Thank you.

[Buzzer].

>> Sarah gore.

>> Hi. My name is Sarah and I'm a homeowner in district 7. This is my first time speaking before the council. I support the budget amendment proposed by councilmember Casar and other members of the council, including my councilmember pool, to reimagine safety in Austin. I'm especially concerned about the cadet academy and would like to see all incoming cadet classes suspended for the foreseeable future. I also strongly support separating internal affairs and forensics from the police department if we want to truly create an evidence-based and impartial way of making decisions. This shows that the council has done its homework and truly listened to the needs of the community. It's also the courageous choice. I commend you and your staff for the effort you put into it and want you to know that if this amend passes I will

[11:42:14 AM]

do my best to support the implementation in the months to come. Thank y'all.

>> Gerald Burkhart.

>> Hello, my name is Gerald. I'm a resident of district 10 and I was just calling to voice my support for the Casar, Garza, harper-madison, pool amendment proposal. I think this is a good step in the reimagining of the police department process. Thank you.

>> Detre stellar.

>> Hi. I live in district 4 and

[indiscernible].

[Garbled audio].

[11:43:22 AM]

[Inaudible recording playing]. And the courage, the challenge you in our city government truly

[indiscernible].

>> Councilmembers,

[indiscernible].

[Buzzer].

[Buzzer]

>> Frank netre.

>> Hi, this is frank. I'm a member of district 1, and a member of Austin dsa

[11:44:25 AM]

and [indiscernible]. And I'm calling to ask that the Austin city council approve the budget amendments that -- the budget amendment

[indiscernible]. And it's called the immediate reinvestment and long-term change plan. We know that you're going to hear from a lot of people that are saying you're going the wrong thing. We've heard a lot of misinformation. We know that APD are going to retaliate. We want to say that we've got our back and we've shown before that they don't stand a chance against us. If you invest in Austin's community and future, we will continue to invest back. Thank you very much for your time and attention.

>> Jane Johnson.

>> Hello, can you hear me?

>> Yes, go ahead.

>> Okay, thank you. Hey, y'all, this is Shane Johnson. I'm here to -- first I want

[11:45:26 AM]

to say that I support the base motion for community reinvestments as a first step, including all the budget riders that councilmember Casar initially suggested as a first step for racial justice. And I support defunding APD by at least 50%. I want to talk about the dispatch center. Safety does not equal police, yet APD manages the 911 call center on behalf of all public safety entities. They serve as a gatekeeper in limited response by other agencies because they have vested interest in controlling who is sent out to calls. After the city attempted to create an alternative 911 response call center with mental health -- for people with mental health disabilities and having a mental health option, APD jacked their fee up and then set it up so that there was only one sole clinician on the dispatch floor which meant -- [buzzer].

[Buzzer]. Please take this function

[11:46:27 AM]

out of APD [indiscernible]

[Buzzer].

>> Kelly van acrum. Kelsey, please unmute. Suki McMahon.

>> [Indiscernible] Justice coalition and I cliff in d9. I support the base motion for community reinvestment. It is absolutely the step in the right direction. I want to pick up where Kathie Mitchell left a police have for many years say they've been asked to do things they are not trained to do. Last year you tried to address the change of how we address mental health first response and strangely your directives resulted in no actual change.

[11:47:28 AM]

This year the Austin justice coalition paid a national data team with experience in police practices around 911 call response. That analysis clarified with data what we already knew, that policing was a long way from what most people believed to be its core mission of addressing times. Community groups worked with APD and tried everything small over the last few years. We tried to amend the general orders to require deescalation. We have tried to add funds to alternative

[indiscernible] To health crisis. We have tried adding classes to the cadet curriculum related to cultural competence and racism. It has become clear that structural problems cannot be addressed in this way.

[Buzzer].

>> Edward fudman.

>> My name is Edward and I've lived in Austin for 32 years. I'm speaking today against the tax rate increase. We cannot afford a seven billion dollar plan that

[11:48:28 AM]

mostly goes to build two light rail lines that 20 years from now will be used by less than one percent of the Austin area population. Even if capital metro's projections are met. Over the past 10 years my total property tax bill has increased by 62%. While inflation measured by the cpi has only increased 18%. The city portion of this bill has increased 55% or three times the rate of inflation. You should not be adding another 24.6% to it this year. Our economic future is uncertain. With 10% unemployment, many homeowners are unable to pay their mortgage. Many renters aren't able to pay rent. Yet their landlord will be given a 24.6% higher tax bill on the property. This is not the time for the largest city tax increase in modern history.

>> Mike wells.

[11:49:37 AM]

>> Mia, please unmute. Melanie berry.

>> My name is Melanie berry. I am a resident of district 10. I support councilmember Casar, Garza, harper-madison, pool and kitchen's amendment. This is only a first step as we continue on this path of defunding the police and reimagining public safety. I urge you to

[indiscernible] That work with the marginalized communities at the forefront. Thank you.

>> Eliza Epstein.

>> Can I please be reentered into the queue and go after

[11:50:37 AM]

someone else? I'm having a bit of an issue with the phone right now?

>> We can hear you fine if you would like to continue.

>> I don't want to ask you to wait. It's going to take about 30 seconds. So if I could just go after the next person that would be really wonderful. I appreciate it.

>> We will call you back. Taylor Joyce.

>> My name is Taylor and I'm a resident of district 7. I'm calling to express my support for the proposed budget amendments that reallocate funding for APD's alternatives that protect an investment in long-term well-being of all members of our community. I'd like to thank the councilmembers who have already written

[indiscernible] In these amendments. And echo other speakers that -- for councilmembers who have not yet expressed

[11:51:38 AM]

their support, this is the time to show your paying attention and value the lives of those communities. This should only be the beginning of defunding our police system. I ask you to pursue recommendations of previous speakers to do considerably more to remove power and funding there APD and reinvest in the communities that the police have harmed. Thank you.

>> If there are any speakers in the queue that haven't expressed zero, please do so now. Thank you. The next speaker is Emily sawyer.

>> Emily, please unmute.

>> Hello. My name is Emily. I live in district 4. I'm speaking to support the base motion for community reinvestment. As a first step toward defunding APD by 50%. Additionally the city is making APD cut its budget in

[11:52:39 AM]

the same way that departments have long been asked to do year after year, especially during economic recession periods and I support directing staff to reduce commodity and contractual purchases by \$3.1 million. Chief Manley continues to behave as if his department should not exempt from the pressures faced by everyone in this uncertain time. The Austin justice coalition study found that 50 to 60 percent of police response time could be handled by someone else. A serious effort to reform emergency response could give the department time back equivalent to more than 100 new officers. The base motion provides a way to fund that alternative staffing. When Manley proclaims that cuts will mean reductions in response times, he is using fear to get the police department special treatment when everyone else is tight in their fiscal belt. Stoking the fears of those who have the least to fear and ignores those who have the police to fear.

[Buzzer].

>> Eliza Epstein.

[11:53:42 AM]

>> Hello. Thank you, my name is Eliza. I'm a resident of district 5 and a member of undoing white supremacy Austin. I'm also a member of d5 for black lives so an kitchen, please Republican to those requests today. I'm I will be reading a translation. I'm asking the accountant to invest in programs that are truly necessary for the communities such as health service, education, funds for different organizations that help families that do not receive an economic stimulus during the pandemic and accessible housing. These are services that in reality promote safety in our community. Thank you. This is a second testimony from [indiscernible]. I live in the city of Austin, Texas. This evening we're making a call to the mayor and city councilmembers that they invest in immigrant communities and not more in the police, especially now that we have so much more need because of the pandemic that's happening. We have a huge lack of resources. We have more needs than

[11:54:42 AM]

normal. City council, we'll be watching you while you deliberate.

[Buzzer]. Thank you.

>> Laura Morrison pibel.

>> Hello, council. My name is Laura, district 4. I support the base motion for community investment. I just want to highlight the importance of decoupling the forensics sciences services from the APD budget. My dad was a forensics psychologist who worked in jails and saw a lot of police mishandling and the aspect of many police departments and jails across the country. Here is what he had witnessed growing up across my life. I have no faith that the police can conduct fair and accurate scientific analysis. So Austin's forensics department should be run by scientists that have specialized investigation, not police investigators who

[11:55:42 AM]

are biased. We want you to please pass this budget with the base motion that we can have an independent department to conduct independent scientific analysis. Freeze all cadet classes. Remove Manley and cronk. This should be the start of cutting more. Thank you.

>> MI wells.

>> Hello, my name is

[indiscernible]. I live in district 9 and I'm collaborating undoing white supremacy Austin. I will be reading testimony on behalf of communities of color united for racial justice. The following testimony was recorded in Spanish. Hello, my name is

[indiscernible] And I live here in Austin, Texas in Travis county and I'm here for this video to ask the city council to please support us, the immigrant community. How? Medical coverage. It is important that we have medical coverage, a doctor and also medicine. I would also like for there to be special programs for

[11:56:43 AM]

all the undocumented. That would be mental wellness and behavioral health workshops. I'm also here because we have immigrants have many needs. So as little as or much as you can donate to the rise fund would benefit those with locations in many ways because we do not have the stimulus [indiscernible] Or national level. Also, let there be help also for teachers, for schools so that they can participate more and do even more for the entire community. Thank you very much. I hope in advance you think about all these petitions that are very important for our low income community. Councilmembers --

>> Caitlin McClune. Caitlin, please press zero or unmute.

[11:57:49 AM]

Mayor, we're going to move on to a few more in-person speakers. Next up is Chris Harris.

>> Hi. My name is Chris Harris from district 4. Over 300 people have died in this community in the last five months from this pandemic. More than we would see die in five years for murders. For the people calling in, citing some brief uptick in crime as a reason to continue to make investments in this police department, I challenge that they don't actually care about the public safety of this community. If they did, they would be calling for doubling or a tripling of our public health department, a public health that struggled to keep up with the testing needs of this community. In the face of that I thank all of you who have proposed and backed publicly the cuts. Clearly a wide gulf remains

[11:58:50 AM]

between what we're doing today and what the public demands. I hope this is a sober reminder that a degree of the failure of the status quo. Not just in this country, but in this community. And that our vision for a more justice city requires us to continue to find ways to address -- [buzzer]. And communities of color. Thank you so much.

>> Hi. I own a business on the east side. I live in district 9. I'm here because the APD's budget is just bad value for money. Besides a human cost and death of our citizens, we bear the legal costs of the APD disregard

[11:59:50 AM]

of their oaths. We need to cut their budget by 50%, by eliminating the cadet classes for the foreseeable future. I also ask you to consider these other ways of reducing the force. Chris Taylor killed Mike Ramos and all the other anonymous officers on the force responsible for putting people in the hospital, require police to live in Austin, remove all police affiliated with white supremacist groups, eliminate the white police force that apparently only exists to mace protesters. The APD should be focused on detective work, and other work should be offloaded to folks who don't have guns and immunities. We don't have situations like that poor teacher who was pulled over for doing a few miles over the speed limit [buzzer sounds]. Thank you.

>> Brandon Caruthers?

[12:00:51 PM]

>> Good morning, councilmembers. My name is Brandon Caruthers, and I live in district 3. I came today to speak about the violence my community members have suffered from the police department. The only reason I've heard from maintaining APD's current budget is crime is on the rise. So I ask you to consider this. If APD has been receiving an annual budget of over \$1 billion and still on the rise, doesn't that tell us APD is at best incompetent at preventing crime and actually stoking crime in the communities they police? I want you to think about what's considered a crime. Last week 40 protesters were arrested by APD for such crimes as obstruction of the sidewalk. That's what would be possible if we spent that money on the stopping of crime. After having experienced the violence of APD countless times

[12:01:52 PM]

in the streets, I don't think it's right we continue to fund them at all.

[Buzzer sounds] I call today for a 50% cut and thank you.

>> Are there any speakers in queue that have not pressed zero, please do so now. The next speaker is Katelyn McClune.

>> Hello. Can you hear me?

>> Yes, go ahead.

>> Can you hear me? Hi. My name is Katelyn McClune, I live in district 4. I support the base for reinvestment. Thank you for letting me speak, councilmembers and mayor. I'd like to talk about how reimagining safety and how the reimagining will significantly reduce the work load of our existing police force. Currently the police have a range of traffic related duties as proposed in councilman Casar's amendment for reimagining public safety and we

[12:02:52 PM]

support divesting 18,000 -- or 18 million and plus away from traffic enforcement. This coming year we can do this by looking at all traffic functions from ticket writing to rush hour traffic management, to determine where our [lapse in audio].

[Buzzer sounds]

>> Mayor, we have one phone number on our list. However, they are not on our registered speaker list. I'm not sure how you want to proceed. Otherwise, that concludes all the speakers.

>> Mayor Adler: If they're not on the list, we can't call people who haven't signed up. Can you call that person and check their name?

[12:03:53 PM]

And see if it's somebody that did sign up and is just calling from a different phone?

>> Yes, sir.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Thank you. Colleagues, those are all the speakers we have now in the first batch, as well as everybody who is queued up at the location. It is 12:03. The next batch is scheduled to come at 1:00. Councilmember Casar?

>> Casar: Before we break for lunch, I want to make sure everybody takes a quick look at the message board. Councilmember harper-madison has found that the Austin public health need is more important in occurring in a smaller dollar figure. The dollars in the base motion have been moved around some to get us the records management system that people have been calling and testifying about, as well as funding the equity in policing, and workforce development asks that were still outstanding. So take a look at that when you

[12:04:54 PM]

can.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Mayor pro tem?

>> Garza: I just wanted to ask, I guess for the agenda, I have questions about the liability fund, and I'm assuming that might be an executive session possibly? But I'll reach out to Ann Morgan in the break and see if I can get my questions -- but if not, I may ask for an executive session at some point.

>> Mayor Adler: That would be fine. Check with Ann if you want to. Councilmember pool?

>> Pool: Just a thought real quick. Would we be able to go through the votes that we needed to reaffirm from Friday? On our agenda?

>> Mayor Adler: We'll do that after it's spoken, because we're not allowed to take action until everyone who wishes to speak has the opportunity to do that.

>> Pool: These are the addendum items on the --

>> Mayor Adler: With every

[12:05:57 PM]

action, the opportunity

(indiscernible).

>> Pool: All right. Great. Thank you.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay? All right. With that, then, it is 12:05 now. We're going to take a recess. We'll come back at 1:00. Thank you, colleagues.

[Recess at 12:05 P.M.]

[1:03:23 PM]

[Music]

[1:10:45 PM]

>> Mayor Adler: I do not see the mayor pro tem Garza, Greg Casar or councilmember Renteria. But it is 1:10. We're going to begin again with the continuation of this budget. And election-related meeting. We have about 150 people that had signed up to speak in this next block. About two and a half hours. We have about hour that have signed on at this point. Certainly people can sign up as we go through this. At the end of this we'll call on anyone else who wants to speak and then we'll dive in. We'll do the revotes first, 14 and 15. When we're done with those items, then we'll get budget item number 1. We will begin with the staff

[1:11:51 PM]

presentation. Councilmember Casar filed, posted something on to the message board,. If it is the will of the council we'll use that as the base motion that is incorporating also whatever the staff changes are that they bring to us in their presentation. With that said we'll go to the councilmembers before speakers. Councilmember alter?

>> Alter: I wanted to clarify that still includes the budget riders which I had noted on the message board. I felt like we needed to have additional conversation about.

>> Mayor Adler: We're going to first consider just the budgetary monetary items, then when we're done with all that then we'll consider the riders independently and separately. When we're done with that then we'll consider items that relate to fees.

>> Alter: Okay. But the base motion that is not --

>> Mayor Adler: Will not -- [overlapping speakers].

>> Alter: Because the chart still has the budget

[1:12:51 PM]

riders in it.

>> Mayor Adler: Good correction. The base motion will not include riders.

>> Alter: Thank you. We have a lot of things moving around so I was trying to get clarity on how we move through the process. Thank you.

>> Mayor Adler: Good clarification. Thank you. Councilmember kitchen.

>> Kitchen: I think this is inherent on on what you said, but just to be clear. So we do our base motion and then we'll be adding on top of it in terms of the budget riders. And we'll go through the whole budget before we vote on the whole thing.

>> Mayor Adler: Correct.

>> Kitchen: Okay.

>> Mayor Adler: Before we vote on budget, we need to know budget monetary items, riders and things that relate to fees, but we'll consider those things separately. All right. If the clerk will start taking us through the speakers that have signed up, that would be great.

>> Okay, thank you. For all the speakers in queue, if you have yet to

[1:13:52 PM]

press zero, please do so now. Thank you. The first speaker is Leticia walker.

>> Six hello, can you hear me?

>> Yes, go ahead.

>> Great, thank you. Good afternoon. I'm Leticia walker with the working group representing district 1. Greg asked in the message board will this address equity, racial, economic, gender, etcetera. Will this make us more just? It should make you all just and not just tired of community needs. That's the solution to this. The working group stands with communities of color united in seeking real solution, the rise fund, Austin public health, low income solutions. Greg and council, you will not satisfy police reform with new holidays and simply moving money to programs.

[1:14:55 PM]

The base motions seem to be so keen on violence prevention, which appears to be a future call for increased APD presence. Food and abortion access is not make the city safer from APD. Some of this is simply supplemental to our demands.

[Buzzer]. Others are distracting.

[Buzzer]. So there's a wide gap

[buzzer]. We're asking to delay the vote [buzzer].

>> Mayor Adler: Thank you very much for your participation. Next speaker.

>> Lindsey la grange.

>> I am calling to support the proposed amendments that would defund APD by \$150 million. Councilmember Flannigan was right last week when he said that these are modest proposals and only a drop in the bucket of what your community is calling for. I do want to commend you, council, for the work you've done here, but I also want to remind you that we're not even close to being done. I was at a protest recently when an activist approached me and tried to convince me that participating in

[1:15:55 PM]

democracy is a waste of time because elected officials will never listen to the people and create the change we need. I strongly disagreed with them and sent them away, but I think we can all understand where that hopelessness comes from. I hope that you keep this person in mind in the coming months and years that you occupy elected offices, and remember why it is that so many of your constituents decide to opt out out of feeling unheard for so long. I hope you will continue to listen to your community's needs and take action accordingly so that we can actually achieve a space in which everyone feels heard. Thanks, council.

>> Andy hadid.

>> Hi, my name is Andy and I'm a resident of district 9. I'm calling to voice my support for the solutions put forth by mostly cloudy and grassroots leadership, namely allocating nine million to the rise fund, 10 million to Austin public health and 150 million to

[1:16:55 PM]

low income housing. Police officers have shown us where they're loyalties lie. They have shown us time and time again that they are against the people and that even with an overinflated budget they are unable to reduce crime. APD has failed us. We must move away from policing as a solution. We need megawatt that works for the people of -- we need something that works for people of of this city instead

of beating them and harassing them. Let's not keep punitive approaches to keep us safe. Thank you very much.

>> La cashkateri.

>> My, I'm a homeowner in district 2 and we need to talk about what happened this past weekend. I would like to know what part of APD training includes smashing candles and flowers and pepper playing people at a memorial, arresting people, taking cameras, punching women in the back of the head who are already

[1:17:56 PM]

handcuffed on the ground, still using knees on necks. I would like to know why a police sergeant is on camera shaking hands with the leader of a white supremacist biker gang, neither of them wearing masks. I would like to know how many APD officers have ties to right wing white supremacist organizations. Defunding APD is only a first measure. We need a change in leadership that means chief Manley needs to go. I don't want my tax dollars being spent on a terrorist organization of racist, unaccountable men with guns. It is only a matter of time before APD is responsible for another murder in our city. Thank you.

>> Lynn hillman.

>> Lynn, please unmute.

[1:18:56 PM]

>> Is it Lynn hillman you're looking for?

>> Yes.

>> I'm sorry, yeah. I can hear you guys. I want to piggyback off of what the last caller said about the video of the APD officers at the Garrett foster memorial over the weekend. One of the officers at 2:23 into the video tells the person taping what he's doing that either they stop filming or he's going to take their phone. This is not appropriate activity on behalf of an APD officer and it indicates why we should support moving internal affairs out of APD. If internal affairs was moved to external affairs, or as I'd like to call them, police-police, this officer can be identified, brought in, immunized, questions and retrained. He has no business being on the front lines dealing with protesters because he doesn't want what he's doing to be seen in the sunshine -- to be seen in the sunshine. This is a fundamental problem with APD and something that we can fix by moving internal affairs out

[1:19:57 PM]

of police department so that police officers know they're going to be held accountable when they act like jackbooted thugs during a protest in downtown Austin. Thank you.

>> Jamie Zapata.

>> Hi. I review police investigations as part of my job and I just want to clarify some of the information I've heard here about police and crime. Like some others have said, police do not stop crime. They don't prevent crime. They don't appear in the middle of a criminal act and save the day. Police don't even investigate all the crime that gets reported. Most uniform officers make maybe one felony arrest in a year. And most of the things that APD does should be done by literally anyone else.

[1:20:58 PM]

Mental health calls, medical calls, homelessness, drug crisis, traffic stops, all those things should be handled by someone not armed to the teeth and trained as a hammer who sees every problem as a nail. I've been at the protests nearly every weekend and have witnessed egregious abuses of power and a lack of professionalism. The absolutely radiant contempt the officers have for citizens exercising their first amendment rights is astonishing. Please defund this antiquated and brutal institution in favor of programs that actually do reduce crime. Please invest in our Austin community and not in its abusers. Thank you.

>> Mary Chisholm.

>> Hi. My name is Mary and I live in district 4. And I support the base

[1:22:00 PM]

motion for community reinvestment. The history of this city council has shown that small actions don't fix the systemic problems that the Austin police department has, including racism, misogyny. We need forensics lab, we need mental health providers, we need community support. We do not need more poorly trained police officers. You need to move the money, fire Manley because he is unable to lead or tell the truth, get rid of Cassaday for his abuses of power and unethical behavior, and fire Cronk if he can't do his job to assist the people of this city. I thank you for your time.

>> Nora Hansel. Hi, I was born and raised in Austin. Currently in district 9 and

[1:23:01 PM]

I'm calling to urge that y'all please follow the lead of ccu, grassroots, Austin justice coalition, who have been doing this work for a very long time. We're in a public health crisis. Y'all need to defund APD ideally by 200 million or at least work up to that starting with at least 100 million. They do not protect communities. Resources protect communities. Please invest in the rise fund, ideally 90 million, the equity Austin, Austin public health as we are in a public health emergency and the most vulnerable populations must be protected, and that cannot happen with more than -- with almost 40% of the city budget going to the police. And also we need public housing. We are in a housing crisis that y'all have the power to end with proper allocation of funds. The safest communities do not have the most police, they have the most resources.

[1:24:02 PM]

[Buzzer].

[Indiscernible]. Of the people doing this work for a long time.

[Buzzer].

[Buzzer]. The answer is not

[indiscernible].

[Buzzer].

>> Your time has expired.

>> Thank you.

>> Chivas Watson. Please unmute. Claire Atwood.

>> My name is Claire and I'm a resident of district 7 and a member of undoing white supremacy Austin. This is a testimony recorded in Spanish and I will be reading the translation.

[1:25:04 PM]

Hill low, my name is

[indiscernible] And I'm asking you, the city councilmembers, to help us because the power to help us is in your hands. We are asking for your help again because we have many needs. Because of the pandemic we are out of work and have many needs, medical and utility bills, many needs. We're running out of food and we're asking people to help us and there are people who only give us bread and that's all we've received. We're asking for these funds because we're hearing that there is money. Please the communities need help. We need help from the community and we're asking for this help from the

mayor and city council. Please, city council, help us and I hope that what I'm doing, this recording, will be heard. Thank you.

>> Greg Bosley.

>> My name is Greg, I'm a member of Austin dsa and

[1:26:04 PM]

Tsu. I live in district 3. Austin's problems aren't new. In [indiscernible] When they shot David Joseph, an unarmed naked teenager. The city was outraged and

[indiscernible]. In 2018 APD's toxic violence, racism and shawism were shown by cadets who were shown as disgruntled dropouts. The at a time item report on -- Tatum report showed racism and complaints. Community groups have been working to reform APD for years. We have tried to fund deescalation, mental health crisis, sensitivity training, body cams. It's clear that training and oversight has not solved the problems. The violence against protesters prove that little has changed.

[Buzzer]. I urge you to use the

[1:27:07 PM]

reimagine Austin

[indiscernible] [Buzzer].

[Buzzer].

>> Jeff mishna. >>

>> Hello, can you hear me?

>> Yes, go ahead.

>> Hi. My name is Jeff and I'm a long time resident of district 7. The proposal to increase our property taxes by 25% for the upcoming budget and project connect is a disgrace. And I urge the mayor and the entire city council to reject it. This increase will harm renters, homeowners and small businesses alike. We are already facing mounting pressures from gentrification, skyrocketing housing costs and the tax increase will only make things worse. It's simply not sustainable and wipes out all of the homestead and sister exemptions that this council

[1:28:07 PM]

approved just a few years back. How can any of you justify a 25% increase in property taxes during a pandemic and with the economic uncertainty that we all face? How can you possibly think this rate increase will help the artists, workers and average citizens who are already struggling in our great city. We need relief, not a tax increase. Keep Austin weird.

>> Chivas Watson.

>> Hey. I'm with the working group representing district 1 and I just became neighbors with Pio in district 3. The working group stands with communities of color in seeking real solutions, Austin public health, low income solutions. Still waiting on FBI million dollars in direct cash assistance in these troubling times in the pandemic. I know that police reform doesn't begin or end with programs. Remove it. It relates the 20-21 police

[1:29:10 PM]

academy. No more weapons and diversity trainings. Only undoing white supremacy Austin. As someone of family violence in my life I know that violence prevention will take more than money, not future strategies for increased APD presence. Food and abortion access will not make the city safer from APD. Last Saturday we the people died dieted and found you all guilty of felony just charges against Austin's communities of colors based on the Texas penal code. Some of this is simply supplemental to our demands, others are distracting and we know it. Because of this conversation has such a wide gap and so profoundly conflicting we're asking that you delay the vote for the mayor Adler six-month delay to decouple funding and establish a process until the clear demands are met.

[Buzzer]. We have our eyes on you. Black men have our eyes on you.

[Buzzer].

>> For all the speakers in queue, if you haven't

[1:30:11 PM]

pressed zero yet, do so now. Thank you. Next speaker is Alex Winsland.

>> Hi. I'm calling from district 9. First I support the base motion. Second, I want to specifically call for the adoption of councilmember Casar's amendment to establish and fund the family violence shelter. On June 4th, city council voted unanimously to direct the city manager to acquire a hotel and fund the service provider to operate the shelter, freeing up of police funds neighbors this possible. Women experiencing homelessness more often than not first experience family violence and reduced mobility during the pandemic caused violent crime overall to fall while domestic violence increased while the victims were trapped at home with their abusers. At the time this proposal was not linked to police funds but it should be now. Expanding shelters for family experiencing family violence is part of

reimagining public health. Reforms to establish an office of violence prevention and improve services are all efforts that reinforce each other.

[1:31:13 PM]

Establish the family violence shelter and use 1.2 million diverted from the police budget to fund it.

>> Danielle Ramirez.

>> Hi, my name is Danielle Ramirez and I'm an advocate for survive to thrive foundation. I believe it's needed for housing, the high volume of victims due to no space in shelters. I am a former client and I am now a domestic violence advocate.

[No audio].

[1:32:40 PM]

>> Mayor Adler: Hello?

>> Hayden black walker.

>> Hello. This is Hayden. I'm speaking on behalf of walk Austin today. Automatic Austin supports the 450-million-dollar active mobility bond, items 10 and 11 on your agenda today. People need safe streets where they can walk for physical and mental health, as well as transportation. We've been taking the steps necessary to put project connect on the November ballot. It's a good plan, just a quick reminder that the majority of transit users walk to their bus or train, yet if you draw a quarter mile radius around existing transit stops, the ones that are out there today, you will see that there are 334 miles of sidewalks missing. It's imperative that we build sidewalks and safe roadway crossings for both today's transit users as well as those in the future. Walk Austin supports putting this active mobility bond on the November ballot and we hope you will do the same. Thank you very much.

[1:33:44 PM]

>> Emma chevalier.

>> Hi. This is Emma and I am a long time resident of district 9, and I am calling to again voice my support for

[indiscernible] Communities of color united. I do also support the 150 million cuts. I do want to voice that I think that this is such a baby step and we need to go much farther and actually invest in the rise fund and real solutions. I yield the rest of my time. If you. Thank you.

>> Michael torres.

>> Can you hear me?

>> Yes, go ahead.

>> I'm a constituent of district 10 and I'm speaking

[1:34:45 PM]

to you today to put in any support for defunding APD by 225 million and diverting those funds to black, brown and indigenous communities. I also support councilmember Casar's proposal, asking excessive force on my communities being killed by the hands of APD. My black brothers and sisters are not a threat to you. I fear for my best friend's life who is black everyday and which is why I take a risk in putting my body out there to protect my friends from harm. What if the next day your friend or family member was taken from you too soon? How would you feel? The whole world is watching. Do the right thing, city council. Listen to your constituents. Thank you.

>> Ashley Hamilton.

>> Good afternoon, I'm Ashley Hamilton with the working group representing district 7 and 1.

[1:35:46 PM]

Greg asked to the message boards will this address equity, racial, economic, gender, etcetera? Will this make us more just? It should make you just about tired for not meeting equitable desires and needs of the community. The working group stands with the communities of color united in seeking real solution, the equity office, Austin public health and low income solutions. Greg and council, you will not satisfy police reform with now holidays and simply moving money to programs. The base motions seem to be so keen on violence prevention, which it appears to be a future call for increased APD presence. Food and abortion access will not make the city safer from APD. Some of this is limp simply supplemental to our demands, others are distractions. Because the conversation has such a wide gap and feels so profoundly conflicting we're asking that you delay the vote for the mayor Adler suggested six-month delay to decouple funding and establish a community embedded process. Until our demands are met point black. Black mothers who don't survive -- [buzzer]

[1:36:49 PM]

The communities of color united have our eyes on you.

[Buzzer].

>> Your time has expired. Thank you.

>> Joshua Crutchfield.

>> Hello, I'm Joshua and I live in district 9 and I do not support the current budget proposal and urge you to delay this vote. It's important to divest at least 220 million from APD and investing in real solutions. I appreciate your willingness to reimagine public safety. I urge you to dig deeper and place people at the center of your so-called policy solutions. This proposal does not go far enough to remedy the long-standing inequities that black, brown and low income communities in Austin have faced. Reimagine public safety does not simply mean reorganizing departments into several departments. Instead this moment in black lives is a fundamental and historic shift about how we think about public safety. Reimagining public safety starts with the most vulnerable with your communities candidate police and policing have not been safe for them.

[1:37:50 PM]

We must ask the questions are what are the ones that APD serves and who are the ones they protect? When we ask that city, council city council, you must ask who do you protect and who do you serve? Whose interests do you have in mind? The pandemic exposed where those have been. It's also offered an opportunity -- [buzzer] Thank you. >>

>> Jenny Thomas.

>> Good afternoon. My name is Jenny Thomas. I'm a resident in district 3 and an Austin native. I'm here today to express my strong vote against Spencer cronk's budget proposal and defund APD by at least 50%. I hope that today and the last two meetings for community comment on next year's budget has convinced every councilmember that your constituents overwhelmingly reject cronk's budget and any future budget that does not defund APD by at least 200 million. Everyday you get more and

[1:38:50 PM]

more proof that this department is not here to serve and protect. APD continually has shown the community that they do not have our best interest at heart. The training they get is beyond inadequate. No one person can do this job. Let's reimagine public safety by defunding APD and removing their power to be violent in unnecessary situations and more often to people of color. Thank you for your time today and please be on the right side of history.

>> James steppe.

>> Hi, this is James. I'm a resident of district 4 and I've lived in Austin for about 12 years. I support the base motion for community reinvestment because it will release funds of over \$7.3 million by removing

park police and lake patrol. Last summer I brought my wife and younger brother to Barton springs and was amazed at the number of

[1:39:52 PM]

police officers. Never witnessed my issues. The police presence was surprising, unnecessary and unwelcome and I assume they were getting paid overtime to stand around at a pool. Yes, another [indiscernible] That I am in support of drastically reducing. Instead of park police and park patrol, we have park rangers. They cultivate stewardship and can conserve the park's resources for the benefit of our community. Rangers have been trained with a focus on community -- on emergency medical response, education and public safety. I support moving as quickly asable away from an overrelying on police and to staff with parks and lake rangers.

>> Sarah hay.

>> Hello. My name is Sarah hay and I currently live in district 10. I support the base motion for community reinvestments. We support councilmember Casar's third budget amendment for reimagining public safety and

[1:40:54 PM]

specifically resupport reimagining traffic safety in this proposal. We can easily divest over 18 million from that of what is not required to be police work. Where there are deadly traffic accidents, the traffic investigation unit is called to the scene. Instead of having this unit there is an opportunity to move this under the traffic safety civilian administration. To the extent that any investigation reveals intoxicants, this team can recommend the D.W.I. Unit, which we recommend remain at APD for now, be called to the scene and make an arrest as needed. The bulk of the work to facilitate the work by insurance companies, not the police. Reimagining public safety must include reimagining traffic enforcement.

[Buzzer].

[Buzzer].

>> Francis Acuna.

[1:42:03 PM]

>> Can you hear me.

>> Francis Acuna, please unmute.

>> Can you hear me?

>> Yes. Go ahead.

>> Yes. My name is Francis. I'm a long time resident for 78744. And I ask that you allocate funding equitably, not equally. And that you remove obstacles to serve our black and brown communities in districts 1 through 5, which are the highest -- which are hit hardest. I ask that you invest in the rise cash assistance, Austin public health, park and green spaces and allocate funding for resilience efforts and green infrastructure. Our residents are preparing as much as they can so that they can be prepared for the next disaster. But we would like for the city to work with all departments and institutions on building their own

[1:43:05 PM]

disaster preparedness to work effectively in saving lives. Please think that taking equitably needs access to healthy foods, [buzzer]. Health and safety for the most vulnerable.

[Buzzer].

>> Michael Folsom.

>> Hello. Can you hear me?

>> Yes, go ahead.

>> My name is Michael and I live in south Austin. I ask that you increase the APD budget and hire more officers. Murders in Austin have increased 64% this year. Emergency response times have slowed by 28% since 2011. The Gallup poll released this month showed that 81% of black Americans support more police in their communities. The Austin crime commission poll in July showed that 53% of Austin residents oppose cutting the number of officers. Through June 2020 eight black and 11 white people

[1:44:06 PM]

have been killed by police in the U.S. Numerous studies have shown that there is no racial bias in police shootings. Hands up, don't shoot is a lie. Michael Brown was killed in Ferguson because he attempted to kill a police officer. Your whole premise for defunding the police because there's a black genocide perpetrated by police is a lie. People of color are the primary victims of crime. Reducing police will result in more murder, rapes and assaults in the minority community.

[Buzzer]. This looks like racism

[indiscernible].

[Buzzer].

>> Elizabeth roll haam.

>> My name is Elizabeth, I'm an attorney in district 5. I support the base motion for community reinvestment. Thank you, councilmembers and mayor for the deep collaboration we've seen as you reduce the police budget. I support the proposals presented to make immediate cuts to close the academy for a full year, reform emergency responses and help

[1:45:06 PM]

unarmed staff where possible and uncouple functions from APD. I hope to end the mounted patrol and canine units. If wealthy homeowners in west Austin push back, if they offer to fill their neighborhoods with police finding every infraction. I think that those who oppose this lack an awareness. If there's any way to convey that by moving patrols around maybe it will have understanding. In my neighborhood in strict 5 I delight in how little I see police and no one wants to pass police cars on their morning walk. I want all austinites to have this feeling of safety and freedom.

[Buzzer]. Please remove chief Manley.

[Buzzer].

>> Jennifer Hecker.

>> Hi. I'm a native austinite and long time resident of

[1:46:07 PM]

district 1. I've lived all over Austin and like the last caller have witnessed our city's disparities in community investment and policing firsthand. History shows us that injustice has deep roots in our city. It also shows us that violent crime has been decreasing for decades and that police rarely prevent a crime, recover stolen property or apprehend rapists and often create violence in neighborhoods they should be protecting. I support the base motion and I thank you for prioritizing records management, which makes it possible for our community to access accurate data and conduct our oversight duties. But I also stand with ajc, ccu, grassroots leadership and many others in demanding that you go much further and redirect additional funds from APD's surveillance programs especially and into real solutions for our community. I urge that funds be redirected at every opportunity to programs that support people and communities like mental health, first responders, ems, public libraries, which serve all of our

[1:47:07 PM]

communities, and so many crucial ways -- [buzzer]. Thank you.

[Buzzer].

>> Caroline Taylor. >>

>> My name is Caroline in district 6. I'm a member of undoing white supremacy Austin. This is testimony recorded in Spanish and I'll be reading the translation. She says, good evening, my name is Claudia

[indiscernible]. I live here in Austin. I'm making this video so that it gets to the ears of the mayor and city councilmembers. We're asking for help for our entire immigrant communities since we could not count on my stimulus check. I belong to a group of women who are fighters. All of us are immigrants and in need of your support to pay bills. These cannot wait and we have a lot of needs in our community. Since we don't have any resources we are struggling with our work because of the pandemic because our working hours have decreased and it is the same that we are affected global by this pandemic. We come here to ask the mayor that he checks his conscience and sees what the

[1:48:08 PM]

immigrant community needs because if we didn't have any need we wouldn't be asking, raising our voice, requesting your help because I'm a single mother. Many in my group are as well and we do not have any support. If we don't pay rent, we don't pay bills, buy food for our children. I hope for your understanding and may god bless you. Councilmembers, we will be watching as you deliberate. Thank you.

>> Kayla Reese.

>> Yes. I am a resident of district 3 and I'm calling to urge the council to defund APD by at least 50% and remove chief Manley. I yield the rest of my time.

>> Jay Crossley.

>> Hi. My name is Jay. I live in d4 and work for a non-profit [indiscernible]. I'm calling today to strongly support giving the voters the option to fund \$450 million in safe multi-modal, equitable

[1:49:09 PM]

access improvements across the city. Items 10 and 11. Traffic crashes continue to be a horrible problem in our city. We have a failed transportation system and we have to fix this. About 90 people died in Austin last year using our transportation system and another 500 suffered life altering serious injuries. These disproportionately impact African-Americans in our city, whereas they sort of -- they represent 10% more of the fatalities than the portion of people. And 15% more of the pedestrian fatalities. And the transportation is a higher cost for low income austinians than housing. So we have a sidewalk plan that promises to spend \$40 million a year and so far that promise has never been met.

[Buzzer]. We have a bike plan --

[indiscernible].

[Buzzer]. Thank you [indiscernible].

[1:50:09 PM]

[Buzzer]. Thank you.

>> Cynthia Vasquez.

>> All right. I'm here, can you hear me in the back? My name is Cynthia. I'm an organizer with java. I'm here representing 78744, 45, 52, 53 and 58. Right now there's a network of 50 plus parents, educators and other stakeholders in south Austin coming together to address education and childcare equity during the pandemic. 8,000 plus students are still waiting for digital devices to safely continue their education in the safest way possible right now. And just as many residents don't even have wi-fi access along the eastern crescent. 2,000 plus students, children, are on a waitlist for childcare and these numbers will explode again at the start of the reopening of in-person instruction. Children and teens make up

[1:51:12 PM]

34% of the population accessing food pantries. Because of all the uncertainty the number of teachers willing to return is still unknown to the community. Teachers in other school staff are faced with the same instability --

[buzzer]. The families they serve are facing.

[Indiscernible].

[Buzzer].

>> Speaker, your time has expired. Thank you. Jessica Ramirez.

>> I'm going to mute my live feed. My name is Jessica. I'm a homeowner in district 2. We were the highest affected zip code by covid-19. We're a community of black and brown Austin city members. We are essential workers, we are Austin. I have lived in Austin since 2009 and I have seen change in the city. In 2012 [indiscernible] Was shot by APD. Austin may have developed

[1:52:13 PM]

over time, yet on April 24th, 2020 Mike Ramos, another Austin city member who lost heir life at the end of APD, which only reason forces that -- reinforces that APD continues its racist bias against black and indigenous people of color. Mayor Adler you say that you support the first amendment, but are you listening? Austin city council are you hearing us? We see the rise in 25% for property taxes, yet our resources continue to be misused and mismanaged. Help us undo racism in Austin. Stop funding violent acts by Austin police -- [buzzer]. We need real solutions cousin cousin.

[Buzzer].

[Buzzer].

[Indiscernible].

>> Marina Roberts.

>> I am a member of district

[1:53:15 PM]

1, Austin [indiscernible] And a member of undoing white supremacy Austin. I am a reading a statement of [indiscernible].

>> Hello, impart of the district 3 community. I am reaching you today via written testimony because it is not enough time to honor my testimony as an undocumented woman currently being displaced by my Riverside home. I am angered by councilmember Renteria's silence during this time. His area is one of the most overpoliced and has been is silent on ending the policing and affecting my community at large. His silence speaks priorities. I have been following the budget conversation since the city manager first introduced the first version of a proposed city budget that did not center or prioritize community needs. Even in the middle of the covid-19 pandemic. As I see organizations and people rally behind the proposed budget amendment that encompasses the ask of 23 million to be removed from this budget cycle from the APD budget and many other possible -- [buzzer] I

[1:54:17 PM]

can't help but feel my anxiety levels rise. Thank you.

[Buzzer].

>> Ali elsi.

>> Hello. I'm Ali and I live in district 1. I support councilmember Casar's amendment to defund APD as well as the amendments to give funds to ems, mental health responders and all other reinvestments. I was at the budget meeting last year when the community demanded no new cops. Those demands were not met, but since then we've seen an unprecedented protest movement for black lives. We also

saw what APD did to those protesters in the streets and we saw the continued incompetence and contempt of chief Manley and Apa president Ken Cassaday who should both be removed. In light of this, today we have an opportunity to start to build trust. I hope council agrees to cancel the next three APD cadet classes, to make structural changes to APD and install vital programs and alternatives to policing

[1:55:18 PM]

as laid out in these amendments. These are long overdue and while these changes are modest, if these amendments pass, there will be backlash. Whether that's from the Austin police association or the governor, I just want to say that I will stand with you and fight with you --

[buzzer]. Stand against

[indiscernible].

[Buzzer]. Thanks for listening to us.

>> Next speaker is Kelly chichester.

>> My name is Kelly. I'm a resident of district 5 and a member of undoing white supremacy Austin. I'm reading testimony from Alicia torres

[indiscernible]. My anxiety levels rise because I know that this proposed budget amendment comes very short of the ask to defund APD by 220 million. And the reallocation of funds into real solutions brought forth by people that have long been pushing the people's

[1:56:18 PM]

budget. The proposed budget is being sold as 150 million defunding cuts from APD's budget. That is the straight up illusion. That might be the future aspirations, but if we have learned anything from past budget conversations is that the road from what we hope to do, what turns into action is a long one in which the city tends to make a lot of turns and twists before arriving if it ever does to the final destination. What the proposed budget amendment actually is is only a 23 million and immediate cuts in reallocation. The remaining 127 million of the proposal is divided into decouple fund and reimagine public safety fund.

[Buzzer]. Thank you. >>

>> Katherine Eisenhower.

>> My name is Kathie Eisenhower. I'm a resident of district 9 and a member of undoing white supremacy Austin. I am continuing testimony

[1:57:18 PM]

from Alicia torres

[indiscernible]. However, APD will still be able to access this money to continue the functions outlined under these categories until the city manager and council come up with an alternative. So this represents an intended, not equal or immediate change. Although we can aspire to these future cuts, what is a reallocation into real solutions. The blueprint by ccu, the community led group that was pushing the people's budget before it was the hot button to push. The real solutions blueprint is completely missing in the reallocation part of this budget amendment. Where the funds to repalestinian initial the rise fund, the only one that provides direct assistance. Where is the additional money for the equity office? The only city office charged with making our city funded offices are equitable? Where is the additional money for the Austin public health department?

[Buzzer].

[1:58:19 PM]

[Buzzer].

[Buzzer]

>> Speaker, your time has expired. >>

>> Hello, can you hear me?

>> Yes, go ahead.

>> I'm calling in support of the bates motion. I can speak about the atrocities committed by APD but you should already know that. They are using their power and the city's indifference to terror rise and allow the killing of people exercising first amendment rights. Increased police not only makes me feel unsafe but angry. As the city is funding the negligence and incompetence of this police force.

[1:59:23 PM]

The proposal in agenda item 1 are modest. Divert funding from APD and reallocate it to services and programs that help people. This is only the beginning. Don't let any more bloodshed be on your hands. Thank you.

>> Maggie stern.

>> I live in district 7, continuing testimony from

[indiscernible]. Where is the money for low-income housing? 6 million in housing services is not enough. Demanding that a 220 million cut from APD budget be made and reallocated to real solutions. 90 million for the rise fund, 4 million for the equity office, 10 million for Austin public health, 115 million for low-income housing. This blueprint was created by the community. Yet it is not reflected in

[2:00:24 PM]

this budget amendment proposal. Such a willingness to follow the demands and continued harm of Austin's directly impacted communities. There are additional items that could be cut immediately from APD that are not mentioned in the budget proposal. A grass roots leadership their report describes massive infrastructure is freely sharing information with I.C.E. And dhs leading to separation of Austin families.

[Buzzer sounding] Thank you.

>> Alison Kissel.

>> Hi, I'm a resident of district 9 and a member of undoing white subpoena sickle cell, Austin. I'm reading testimony from Alicia torres

[indiscernible]. This current budget proposal is not change as we community we demand it. I, my family, friends, we

[2:01:26 PM]

will be watching you as you deliberate on this budget. Thank you.

>> [Indiscernible].

>> Hi, I live in district 3 and am a member of both dsa and ajc. I'm calling on the entire council to support the proposal put forward by councilmembers Casar, Garza, harper-madison, pool and kitchen as well as harper-madison's amendments. To divert funds away from the police force and reallocate towards city resources that would support and build up our communities. I support the proposals. Please give us a reason to still have faith in democracy. Prove you are listening to

[2:02:28 PM]

the people you are as opposed to to represent and defund APD and fire chief Manley. Thank you.

>> Jordan [indiscernible].

>> Good afternoon. My name is Jordan and I'm a resident of district 3 in ten. I'm asking you today to increase the amount reallocated from the Austin police department into the community. Living in Riverside I've seen so much homelessness and so much unnecessary police presence. Councilmember Casar's proposed budget cut of 23 million from APD is a step in the right direction but is not close to the amount requested by community advocacy groups. The initial 11.3 million budget cut from APD is less than 3% of the -- of their overall budget. You are telling the residents of Austin that mental health, affordable housing and a commitment to ending homelessness in the city is worth less than 3% of the police department

[2:03:28 PM]

budget. You are letting the people of Austin know how the issues that affect them daily are seen by this council. Thank you so much for your time.

>> Ebony trice.

>> Excuse me. I'm Ebony trice with colony park in district 1. The answers are less politics and more people. The working group with the communities of color united and real solutions, the rise fund, equity office, Austin public health, low-income solutions like immediate solutions in the homeless community. You will not make --

[indiscernible]. The main focus seems to be on violence prevention.

[Indiscernible] Will not make the city safer from APD. Some of this is supplemental to demands and others are

[2:04:30 PM]

very distracting. Because this conversation is so conflicting, we're asking that you delay the vote, a six-month delay and establish a community embedded process until our clear demands are met point black. The communities of color united have their eyes on you.

[Buzzer sounding] Real solutions. I yield the rest of my time.

>> For all the speakers in queue, if you have not pressed zero, please do so now. Thank you. The next speaker is Susan Nia.

>> Hi, I'm a homeowner in district 10. I support the amendments proposed by councilmembers harper-madison, Casar, Garza, pool, kitchen and others to transfer functions like the forensic lab, 911

[2:05:31 PM]

dispatch away from APD. To pause the cadet classes for one year and use those funds to invest in EMS, addiction, et cetera. Both to enforce accountability and to address any unforeseen issues that may arise with changes that are this big. Thank you councilmember Casar, the spread sheet was very helpful in summarizing all the changes easy to understand. Contrary to some others who testified today, be I support the mobility plan, particularly the plan to get real rail in Austin even if it raises taxes. Thank you for your time.

>> [Indiscernible] .

>> Can you hear me?

>> Yes, go ahead.

[2:06:33 PM]

>> Hi. I'm 11 years old and attend wildflower youth group. I'm calling about the real solutions movement and proposal to decrease the money we spend on the police to invest in community based health and safety programs. This is important because so often we see in the news people's lives being taken by police because of the color of their skin and never getting justice. Are we really going to let this continue happening? I'm asking you to vote in support of funding real solutions by divesting 50% of the APD budget. Thank you.

>> Kenya Gillespie.

>> Hi, Kenya Gillespie, resident of district 1. I support the base motion as well. I would like to touch on one particular aspect of the budget reallocation and that is the coupling of internal affairs from APD. I think it is clear the internal police

[2:07:33 PM]

investigations are a dead end for any Austin citizen with a valid complaint. Fair investigations against APD officers rarely occur and the outcomes usually provide very little to no redress. The report released earlier this year it was reported that, quote, an extremely low degree of expectation among officers themselves that internal investigations into racist and sexist behavior are handled seriously.

[Indiscernible] Who experiences any kind of wrongdoing at the hands of police officers who want to approach this same system that is at fault in the first place. We must separate internal affairs from APD and create a meaningful and independent system that actually holds officers accountable when they violate the law or policy. Thank you.

[Buzzer sounding]

>> Christian cab caballero.

[2:08:34 PM]

>> Hi, resident of district 2. Also commissioner on the human rights commission for city of Austin and I also work as a director of community outreach for Texas advocacy. I echo the demands to reallocate funds from the police department that not only provide reimagine alternatives health and safety, but address the root causes of racial inequity and prioritize long-term solutions for communities of color. There is no excuse to debate, prolong or delay what needs to be done on behalf of vulnerable community members that are impacted the most. We need fearless leadership to step up and do the right thing. We cannot keep doing business as usual especially on overreliance and funding of APD. Thank you for your time.

>> Tara Carr.

>> Hi, my name is Tara,

[2:09:36 PM]

district 1. I happen to work on lake Austin in close proximity to the lake patrol. I've been able to see firsthand how vital they are to the community, safety of boaters and lakegoers participating in non-motorized recreation. Educate them on water safety and create a harmonious environment between people who live on the lake and visit it for recreational and commercial use. What I imagine with some people stating defund the police mean, I do not interpret it as taking away from a unit that has actual value to the community it serves. I guess it might be easy to make people happier by making quick cuts to items on budget, but at what cost? I surely hope not at the cost of my community's safety. To the council, when it comes time to make these cuts and redirect funds, consider how you are impacting constituents when they visit Austin Lakes. Thank you.

[2:10:38 PM]

>> Barbara zolay.

>> Hi. I'm from lost creek in district 8. Please support chief Manley. Look what happened in Seattle where a fine police chief resigned. Don't cut officers, cancel three or more cadet classes and slash overtime to 46 officer positions. Austin citizens support reform but not these actions particularly when crime is increasing and crimes soaring. Austin dropped from 11 to 18 safest city for property crimes. Let the community decide how to reimagine public safety. I do support the city manager's reimagine protest

and proposals to fund alternate responses to domestic violence and mental health calls including additional ems. Yes, there's room for criticism. Weed out the bad officers, but don't throw the rest

[2:11:38 PM]

under a bus. Finally using the police budget as a proxy board is dangerous. Symbolic acts to cut police officers do not --

[buzzer sounding]

-- Making the community less safe does not fix -- thank you.

>> Montana Steele.

>> Hi, Montana, I currently live in district 9. I support the base motion as a first step towards defunding APD by 50%. Specifically name how we can reimagine traffic safety and enforcement within this proposal. We can easily divest over \$18 million that can be done by unarmed civilians. Austin has the largest motorcycle police force in the state. According to APD, the primary functions of the unit include a number of road safety issues like removing debris and assisting with traffic and that does not need armed

[2:12:40 PM]

police. Last year the motorcycle unit made headlines when it was determined it was doing very little traffic enforcement and the chief responded with quotas. Flashing signs

[indiscernible] Basic goal of driver safety. Police write far fewer tickets in Austin so why continue to invest in armed traffic enforcement. That the actual need tore a traffic stop. This is a really important first step in reimagining --

[buzzer sounding] And I hope this passes. Thank you.

>> Katherine kioto.

>> Hello, speaking on behalf of Katherine in district 9, I'm calling today first to thank members of the council who have responded to public cries for more equitable Austin and ask other members of the council including councilmember tovo to

[2:13:40 PM]

support this work by voting in favor of the base motion for community investment. Councilmember tovo, please support this plan, not cherry picked but in its entirety. In addition I urge council to continue consideration of councilmember Flannigan's restructuring proposal, continued pushing for new leadership at APD and continue the difficult work of working toward a new vision for public safety as called for you for ccu, ajc and others. I feel lucky to have this work envisioned for a better Austin. Now we need the entire council to support the work and commit to continuing this hard effort. Thank you very much.

>> Paul tardy.

>> Hi, I'm Paul tardy,

[2:14:41 PM]

district 9 resident

[indiscernible] Volunteer. I'm calling in favor of reallocating police funding. City council must be bold enough to shake that habit with punitive justice and seek preventive measures that reduce the causes of crime. The blue wall of silence, abusive officers are holding us back from progress. I suggest that all councilmembers read the end of fleecing and better navigate the path forward and learn from what works as we enter a new era so that our communities are healthier, stronger and safer as a whole and in order to facilitate this continue to work on mutual aid and volunteerism and civic engagement. May city council do what's right. The book title is the end of policing. Thank you.

>> Fanny [indiscernible].

[2:15:48 PM]

>> Hi, my name -- can you hear me?

>> Yes, go ahead.

>> Can you hear me? My name is fanny, a member of ebenezer Baptist church and central Texas interface. Our city is facing many chances in the midst of the pandemic and civic unrest over police responses. We must work to repair, replenish and restructure our public safety response to fit the community's needs. Whatever reforms are passed, we need to make sure we rebuild with a solid infrastructure where all components of our service communities are adequately funded, trained, staffed and working in harmony with each other to ensure efficient and functional long-term outcomes. Ultimately we need our community and our police force to feel safe and secure within themselves and

[2:16:49 PM]

with each other.

[Buzzer sounding] Real community policing.

[Buzzer sounding] Police and community working together for one common good.

>> Brianna Arredondo.

>> Can you hear me?

>> Yes, go ahead.

>> Okay. Hi, I live in district 3. I intend on using my right to vote in the upcoming election to ensure that all opponents and elected officials who have negated and ignored the blatant violations, blatant violations of citizens' rights by APD. Brutality forced on us, these are protesters by APD and the lack of basic acknowledgment of the issues of equality facing our city

[2:17:51 PM]

are effectively removed from office. Fire chief, fire Spencer cronk, fire Ken Cassidy. We demand you defund APD by \$50 million. I also was wanting to say as well it's been two months of protesting APD has hospitalized and continued to brew alates, beat, tear gas, pepper spray, throw peaceful protesters on the ground --

[buzzer sounding]

-- And mounted police.

[Buzzer sounding]

>> Thank you for your comments. Your time has expired. Amelia lindle.

>> Hi, I'm a resident of district 7 and I'm calling in support of communities of color united advance for demanding Austin police department by \$220 million

[2:18:53 PM]

and reinvestment of those funds back into the community with the funding of real solution, the rise fund, inequity office and public health and low-income housing. The current proposal

[indiscernible] And only puts 3.7 million towards public health which is nowhere near enough money to alleviate the strain of coronavirus. Truly defunding the police and reducing the number of officers and cutting police overtime are the only ways to reduce police violence in Austin because the system can't be reformed. APD has failed Austin, brutalized black and brown austinites and there's no reason to delay

necessary clinics we could make right now. Austin city council owes it to communities of color and the city as a whole to stop funding violent police actions. Black lives matter. Thank you.

>> Jasmine Harrison.

>> Hi, my name is Jasmine

[2:19:54 PM]

Harrison, a resident of district 1 and native austinite. I support the base motion to reallocate funds from APD to the communities. I also support the demands of ccu and grass roots leadership and support real solutions and rise fund. I urge the city council to delay this vote until the demands of these organizations can be met and I also urge the city council to partner with these organizations to create a plan to dissolve APD completely in four years. Lastly, I demand that city manager Spencer cronk fire police chief Manley medley. He does not need money from the budget following his incredible lack of leadership and violence against austinites. Thank you very much.

>> Zach Angland.

>> Hi. I live in district 9. I've lived in Austin for a decade and hope to remain

[2:20:55 PM]

here for decades to come. I'll calling to ask that we delay the vote to allow genuine community collaboration for real change, however, should the vote proceed, I demand my councilmember, Kathie tovo, support the joint proposal by mayor pro tem Garza and councilmembers harper-madison and Casar and delineated on the message board on August 7. I'm going to be gravely disappointed in my representation if we see councilmember tovo among those who drag their feet by opposing this joint proposal. Lastly I demand city manager cronk fire police chief Manley. Considering the council's unanimous vote of no confidence, he has -- I yield my time.

>> When ity loss.

-- Whitney loss.

>> Hi, I've lived in Austin

[2:21:56 PM]

for 14 years and been a resident of district 3 for over six and a social worker. I'm calling to support councilmember Casar's amendment to the proposed budget as many others have mentioned, we need

to take the time to fix what is so clearly broken by canceling the next three cadet classes, cutting unnecessary police overtime and eliminating positions currently vacant. We must shift critical functions like internal affairs and forensics out from under the thumb of APD so they can function effectively and transparently. The millions saved must be reinvested in desperately needed areas like EMS and emergency mental health areas. There are other proposals that are equipped to handle the most common needs of our community and appropriately reinvesting those funds is what will truly keep us safe. The members of council yet to support Casar's amendment make the choice for material, tangible changes to keep us safe. Thank you.

[2:23:02 PM]

>> Ahmed Hussein.

>> Hello. I'm a resident of district 9 and a member of

[indiscernible] Austin. I'm reading a statement from Diana Williams, a organizer with Texas advocates for justice. I stand in solidarity to defund APD by 220 million. Now is the time that Austin like Houston and other cities should be no more. We have to begin to reimagine the safety holistically looks like and realize it does not look like uniformed police with guns and tear gas. The result has been more deadly APD violence against communities of color when Christopher Taylor murdered Mike Ramos, yet Austin city council is still not reviewing this and more police presence in black and brown neighborhoods. This is just like in Houston where we had seven police killings this year of black and brown men. There is disregard for the

[2:24:04 PM]

human life of those black and brown. Invest money into the community for social services.

[Buzzer sounding]

[Buzzer sounding] Thank you.

>> Hill Abell.

>> Hello, good afternoon. I am reaching out to the city council to ask for your support on items number 10 and 11 to support the \$450 million active transportation bond that will enable the city to meet the Austin strategic mobility plan goal of building out 80% of the highest priority components of the all ages and abilities bicycle network. The pandemic has clearly shown us that we must have a resilient, diverse transportation network for the city that is growing at a rapid rate. The city's population will

[2:25:04 PM]

double in the next 20 years and a large number of the people that live here want alternatives to being in a motor vehicle. Support a \$450 million transportation bond in November. Thank you.

>> Carla Garcia.

>> My name is Carlotta Garcia from our lady of Guadalupe here with

[indiscernible] Ebenezer. Call for community policing, strong oversight and improved recruitment and training of officers. Until now Austin has given community policing lip service only so let me see what it looked like last year. 100 residents from five east

[2:26:05 PM]

side congregations gathered at the holy cross catholic. A third African-Americans

[indiscernible] They were joined by ten officers and two commanders and the director of police oversight and after a brief instruction on basic principles all broke out to share stories around safety.

[Indiscernible] And there were moments of tension. Questions and challenges. But a baseline for future engagement and accountability was stabbed. For this model of community policing to work, it must be local, be supported by APD and the city of Austin so we call on you to implement this model.

[Buzzer sounding]

>> [Indiscernible].

>> Kerry, resident of district 3 and a member of undoing white supremacy.

[2:27:06 PM]

I will be reading translation. Hello, good evening, my name is Sonya. I'm from Austin --

>> Excuse me. I think there's somebody who is not muting their phone. Go ahead, please.

>> Hello, good evening, my name is Sonya. I'm from Austin and through this medium I'm calling on the mayor and city councilmembers to please take note of the communities of color and immigrants and not the police. We have a great need of support with housing because of the crisis we are going through right now because of this epidemic that has brought us down covid. We ask that you help us move forward since we do not have any other resources, please we ask you to take note and we will be eternally grateful. Thank you very much.

>> Lindsay Lagrange.

[2:28:08 PM]

Lindsay, please unmute. We will call her back. Maggie Brookshire.

>> Hi, can you hear me?

>> Yes, go ahead.

>> Okay. This is Margaret Brookshire and I live in district 5. I'm calling to support the Casar amendment to the proposed budget and to support defunding APD by at least \$200 million. I'm in favor of canceling the next three cadet classes and canceling funding for vacant positions and moving internal affairs out of APD. The historic protests we've seen in support of these measures, this is the very least city council could agree to do. On that note APD needs to stop being allowed to intimidate and arrest peaceful demonstrators.

[2:29:08 PM]

That's why I'm demanding Brian Manley be removed from office. There is far much more work to be done to address police violence and racial inequality in Austin. Please reinvest in vital community services like Austin public health and permanent support of housing and services. Thank you for listening today.

>> Scott Mcnerney.

>> I'm a 22-year resident of Austin residing in district 9. I've served on multiple neighborhood associations, executive committees for is a-plus years. I'm speaking today on the reallocation of city budget funds. I'd like to see at least 25% of APD's budget redistributed to health and human services initiatives. That would make a difference for residents. Austin's police department documented online problems including racial

[2:30:08 PM]

injustice, over stepping, lack of sufficient training and APD repeatedly attack peaceful citizens exercising first amendment rights. Chief Manley needs to be removed. He has been -- military style weaponry. Racial profiling is insanta clausable. I'm asking for 25% reduction, reallocation of those funds going to health and human services that truly serve all austinites, mental health --

[buzzer sounding]

-- Ems and so forth.

[Buzzer sounding] Remove Manley.

[Buzzer sounding]

>> To all the speakers in queue, if you have yet to press zero, do so now. The next speaker is Denise Iseman.

[2:31:08 PM]

>> Good afternoon. I'm calling -- can you hear me okay?

>> Yes, go ahead.

>> I'm calling in favor to reallocate funding from the APD budget to continue crisis response work for domestic violence victims. Funding will allow victim services to implement pilot and web based programs.

[Indiscernible] Quick to respond to establish accommodations for those impacted from the pandemic from essential workers due to domestic violence. Council, we ask full support of the sanctuary proposed plan submitted to you while protecting citizens in time of need. Public safety remains in your hands. Thank you for your time and all you do to make our wonderful city.

>> Carmen [indiscernible].

>> Yes, thank you all for

[2:32:10 PM]

your tireless work over the last five months and this potentially transformational process. I'm here to say cash assistance is critical to our ability to get through the pandemic. Allocate generously to the rise fund so people can shelter in place, return to school and care for the sick. It's critical to getting out of this pandemic as safely and quickly as possible. Fund the health department fully. You have champions in leadership networking with community to get resources for food, testing, ppe, financial support and more. Don't lose sight of the long-standing needs for equitable investments. Those of you here during fiscal year 15 and 16 remember the long standing work to invest

[indiscernible] 250,000 per year and focus on districts 1 through 5. It's a drop in the bucket and reduces crime rates, increases physical activity and quality of life. Finally, you passed two climate resilience

[2:33:10 PM]

resolutions and you must fund them adequately.

[Buzzer sounding] It's a hot summer and storms are coming.

[Buzzer sounding]

>> Your time has expired. Stefan wicks.

>> Hello. I'm in district 1,

[indiscernible] It's been a pleasure seeing the cats on the stream today. I just want to address the budgets of APD and their overtime. I do not understand how it's justified. Whenever I see police officers in Austin, they are always at least five cars and officers to deal

[indiscernible]. I see this as a failure to organize resources properly. I think anyone with management experience would say the same.

[2:34:11 PM]

It comes across the individual citizens as intimidation. The budget needs to be cut. Manley is not capable of leading and needs to be removed. Thank you.

>> Mayor Adler: Councilmember harper-madison.

>> Harper-madison: Thank you, mayor. It's almost as though the last caller summoned a cat. Everybody, this is Kelly, and she's a foster kitty who is going to be staying with us for a while so she's feeling out of sorts and very needy today. My apologies. I'm not distracted, but she will be joining us on and off throughout the course of the day, just to give a little loving.

>> Mayor Adler: Mayor pro tem.

>> Garza: I was gag to going to say my needy five-year-old has enjoyed your cat.

[2:35:16 PM]

>> The next speaker is Bianca [indiscernible].

>> APD and Ada are demonizing the people of Austin in order to use fear to hold the city hostage. I'm calling in support of the citizens attacked by Brian Manley and his goons. We want at least 100 million cut from the police budget immediately. We want to divest money for mounted patrol and other abuses of our resources. An APD gets a more absurd amount of mope than any other in Austin. Such as Austin public health and others, we can help end homelessness, help those with drug problems and alcohol problems to get sober, help people pay rent and have food to eat. The police do not --

[indiscernible] Find a way to help save lives in Austin

[2:36:16 PM]

that doesn't involve monsters who want to see citizens questioning their actions bleeding and dying in the streets. Defund APD and fireman Lee.

[Buzzer sounding]

-- Fire Manley.

>> David Witte.

>> David Witte, please unmute.

>> Hello. My name is David Witte and good afternoon, mayor and council. I'm speaking on behalf of adapt of Texas, a disability rights organization. Adapt supports the immediate reinvestment in long-term care change plan that redirects \$150 million of the Austin police department's budget. Over and over again APD has proven to be infect you'll and incapable of properly responding to folks in our community who are experiencing a mental health crisis. Simply put, adapt of Texas

[2:37:17 PM]

will never believe that shooting or killing people with disabilities is a reasonable accommodation. But this budget amendment can be seen as a beginning of the process towards appropriate and helpful emergency and crisis responses, [inaudible] Affordable housing and other essential needs. Somewhere city funds must be found to pay for the costs of young Justin Howell who was shot and injured by an APD officer in June. Also black lives do matter. Thank you for your time.

[Buzzer sounding]

>> Keeley Washington.

>> Good afternoon. I am a [indiscernible] Advocate. I subpoena pore councilmember Flannigan's amendment. I'm against the current proposed budget, however, I am requesting a funding reallocation from the APD budget to continue the crisis response work for

[2:38:18 PM]

dbsa victims, APD victim services and the sanctuary web platform. Helps community victims and their families reestablish themselves through the sanctuary program, but there are so many more people that need the same kind of bill. We could assist many more with proper funding and additional staffing to bring them out of obscurity. I strongly believe the work

[indiscernible] To help victims in crisis must go on. Strongly consider the proposed plan and continue to fund and grow this important work. Thank you for your time, consideration and meaningful work for the great city of Austin. Thank you.

>> Jennifer Lucas.

>> Hi there, can you hear me?

>> Yes, go ahead.

>> My name is Jennifer Lucas and I'm a resident of district 9 and a member of

[indiscernible]. This is a testimony record understand Spanish and I

[2:39:19 PM]

will be reading the translation. Good afternoon, my name is

[inaudible] Santiago, I live in the city of Austin and ask the council to grant us more help. Pandemic becoming more drastic every day. We are trying to make people aware of everything this lack of safety implies. We want to do a good job alongside you but the situation is very critical. Please help us. We are working with the city giving away masks. We are trying to do the most possible giving food pantry donations to people who need it, but we need help. Many families are without work. Many whole families are sick with covid. Please listen to us. Thank you.

>> Heather Frederick.

>> Hello.

[2:40:20 PM]

I'm a resident of district 9 and a member of undoing white supremacy Austin. I will be reading the translation. Hi, I'm here to ask to you please invest a bit more in the community and things that are important so that the community will be safe and healthier. For example, give me money to schools and sports projects to creating art events, education above all, the rise fund that also still needs it a lot and also hospitals and things that will make us feel we are in a more educated, safer community. And that will help us to reduce crime. This is fundamental for any type of city or community. The more educated we are, the more we invest in health and education. I believe we will be better off. Thank you. City council, we are watching as you deliberate. Thank you.

>> Bob libel.

>> Hi.

[2:41:20 PM]

My name is Bob libel, a long-time resident of district 7. I support reallocation of money away from policing and towards community solutions and taking functions like victim services and internal affairs outside of APD. I also strongly support the proposal to much more deeply invest in covid relief housing and health and equity measures. Opposition is the continued funding of the Austin regional intelligence center which is a dragnet for federal law enforcement agencies including those that escalated violence in Portland recently and those that perpetuated devastating immigration raids here in Austin. Collaboration between APD and I.C.E. Has included sharing utility records, vehicle registrations and school incident reports making members of our community susceptible to deportation and less safe. Unless of -- increase funding for immigrant legal

[2:42:21 PM]

defense. The time for bold action is upon us and I hope council's actions meet this historic moment.

[Buzzer sounding] Thank you.

>> Russell banglor.

>> On may 30, Brian man he turned a protest on the streets of Austin into a war. Police pepper shot into a crowd of protesters outside APD headquarters. Hundreds of people were hit, some seriously injured. The community and council have both shown they have no confidence in Manley and yet he remains making over 160,000 tax dollars a year. This is a public safety hazard. We have already lost Garrett foster to this war. Who is next? We need Brian Manley to be fired and 150 million to be cut from the APD budget. Every day more austinites are losing their homes and yet we are devoting more of our budget to [inaudible] Them than helping them. With over 2,000 homeless in

[2:43:21 PM]

our city, we spend 20 million a year to give police officers horsey rides so they can defecate all over our streets. The people of Austin will not continue to fund a man or department that is at war with us. They have arrested 60 protesters in the past two weeks without just cause. They have proven they will fight change with everything they have. That is why Brian Manley cannot be part of this conversation.

[Buzzer sounding] Policing in Austin does not include him.

[Buzzer sounding]

>> Daniella Gutierrez.

>> Hello. I'm representing the working group in district 2. Would this address equity, racial economic, gender, et cetera? Will this make it more just? The working group stands with communities of color in seeking real solutions. The rise fund, equity office, Austin public health, low-income housing.

[2:44:22 PM]

Greg and council, you will not satisfy police reform with new holidays and simply moving monies around. The motion seemed to be so keen on preventing violence. Understand that abortion and food access is not -- is not -- is not going to make our city of Austin safer from APD. Some of this is only supplemental to our demands. Because this conversation has such wide gaps, we're asking that you delay the vote for six months which mayor Adler suggested. To establish community and better process will Latino families in dove springs are not pleased with smoke and mirrors. Give us more than one minute to create the solutions.

[Buzzer sounding] Thank you all.

>> Av Keiser.

>> Ivy Kaiser with shoal creek conservancy. I would like to thank

[2:45:24 PM]

councilmembers Ellis, harper-madison and Casar and the mayor for their support of \$450 million mobility bond package to support the strategic mobility plan. Funding for priority sidewalks, urban trails, bike ways and vision zero programs is vital to making active transportation and outdoor recreation safer and more Ada compliant for austinites all over the city. The proposed \$450 million will allow Austin to complete many of its highest needs projects already included in the city's sidewalk, urban trails and bicycle ways plan. It will also allow for the completion of missing pieces of the missing troop, the 30 miles of trails that will connect downtown, walnut creek trails, eastern crescent and shoal creek trails. Support items 10 and 11 for a healthy and active future for our city. Thank you.

>> Kayla T.O.D.

[2:46:27 PM]

-- Todd.

>> Hi, Caleb Todd, resident of district 5 and life-long Texan. I'm calling to support the resolution passed today as a first step in defunding a bloated and irresponsible police department that makes the majority of our residents feel less and not more safe. And to violently suppress those speaking out against them.

As I said, APD makes many residents feel less not more safe. We need to reallocate funds to programs that will actually prevent crime and prevent many instances that threaten our community's safety. Specifically in my district there's many unhoused residents whose safety and property is not protected and often threatened by members of APD. And then whose ability

[2:47:27 PM]

housed connect with medical resources and given supplies needed to fight covid-19.

[Buzzer sounding]

-- Private residents such as myself. Thank you for your time.

>> [Indiscernible].

>> District 4 and I support the reinvestment plan. I've seen peaceful protesters beaten and arrested for fabricated crimes. Ken casa I did told CNN he had it coming. An officer was giving an order to -- in favor of back the blue supporters. These kids were tackled and arrested followed by high fives between police and back the blue. The murders of Mike Ramos and Garrett foster go free. How many millions have been

[2:48:28 PM]

spent to fight the small group of people standing up for what they believe in. For everything I've heard today, it's clear citizens do not want tax dollars going to fund a broken police system [inaudible]. Really needs \$400 million, tax the giant corporation moving to town. We're not going away, we do this every night.

[Indiscernible]

[Buzzer sounding]

>> Cronk and Manley have got to go.

>> Jennifer Mcphail.

>> Hi, I'm Jennifer Mcphail, also with adapt of Texas and I just wanted to reiterate some of what David said. We support folks being able to protest and be safe in their communities no matter what their race and we stand with black lives matter, but

[2:49:30 PM]

also I wanted to let you know I recently back in the last week of June had several crimes occur at my apartment complex. And when I called it in, when I called what I witnessed in, I was retaliated against by one of my neighbors and they left a note that was threatening toward me. So I called that in. And when it was assigned to an officer, he said that they couldn't do anything about it because council is cutting their budget and that black lives matter was at fault. So that just goes to show you that there's an antagonistic attitude toward all people in the community and it has to stop.

[Buzzer sounding] To get the issue addressed and it was a woman who addressed it.

[Buzzer sounding] I think we need more women leaders in the police department and that would go a long way toward helping

[2:50:30 PM]

people.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Adler: Hold on one moment. Hold on. Councilmember harper-madison, you raised your hand.

>> It might be too late. I was hoping we didn't lose that caller. I would really like to follow up with her.

>> She's on the line.

>> Harper-madison: Can I get you to reach out to my office, please? I think we met once before at a ground breaking. If you could reach out to me at district 1 at Austin, texas.gov, I would like to follow up on your experience.

>> I'll do that.

>> Ready springer.

>> Good afternoon. How is everyone doing?

[2:51:32 PM]

I represent district 1 and I have some questions regarding some of the proposals. Will this address equity and will it address racial economic equity? We have funds like the rise funds, the equity office, Austin public health and low-income solutions that need funding. You can't satisfy anything for police reform with holidays and money programs. You need more than that. You need to know where the money is going, who it's going to, how will it affect people positively. We basically would like a safer city from the Austin police department. Some of this is simply supplemental to demands. But the conversation has such a wide gap and is still profoundly conflicting that we're asking that you delay the

vote for mayor Adler who suggested six months and establish a community embedded process. It is clear that people have demands, point blank --

[buzzer sounding]

[2:52:33 PM]

-- Basically voice the same thing.

[Buzzer sounding] Chute -- choose our community over APD. Thank you for your time.

>> Adrian Lusk.

>> Yes, hi. Due to soldier soldier -- have the opportunity to make a change in budget to set a national precedence for justice and reform. It's clear little is done to secure safety or justice for the most marginalized. Despite everything the city has gone through this year due to APD's abhorrent behavior led by moon Manley. Derogatory remarks by the Austin police association clearly prove that they are not responsible enough to handle a large budget nor the responsibility that comes along with it. These actions, shooting, tasing unarmed individuals, causing destruction at

[2:53:34 PM]

memorials, treating individuals who drive into protesters as an acceptable act should not accrue more funding. Instead funding more violence and racial discrimination, funds should be even vested into community programs. 90 million for direct economic transfer to families in need due to the pandemic, 4 million in increased staffing to develop more indepth community engaging and each year for five years to address chronic underfunding.

[Buzzer sounding]

[Indiscernible] Thank you for your time.

>> Michael lighthouse.

>> Hello, I'm Michael, resident of district 9, urging council to take this opportunity to act on change and be leaders of sorry social justice not only in

[2:54:35 PM]

Austin but nationwide. Reallocating APD's budget and community toward community goals totaling 50% of APD's budget. Much of the hard work is already being done, communities of color united, local

supporters of the black lives matter movement and fellow councilmembers. The precedent for change is already being set by your contemporaries in Portland, Chicago, D.C. And Austin can do better. Kathie tovo as a resident of district 9 your silence on this issue is of great concern to me and many of our other constituents. I urge you to put yourself on the right side of history, defund the police and help create a safer and more just world. If you are unwilling to do that right now --

[buzzer sounding]

-- I urge council to delay the budget vote.

[Buzzer sounding]

[2:55:38 PM]

>> Anna Perez.

>> Hi, I live in district 1 and I'm a member of dsa and policy alliance for communities of color. The past few months we've lived through police brutalizing people downtown, out right disregard of human life by state and federal government. The president of our police union justifying the murder of a young man on national television while his killer is free and misleading crime statistics meant to scare us into inaction. I ask you adopt the 150 million in Casar's budget cuts. Keep showing up and making even harder decisions going forward because this motion bury scratches the surface of the racism and inequity we are asking you to address as a council. When we immediately cut the APD budget by 20 millions by delaying Kathie tovo at the time classes, reducing

[2:56:40 PM]

police overtime and eliminating vacant position to fund health care, victim services and affordable housing, there will be ugly backlash, but when that push-back comes, remember the hundreds who came out for the first time to ask you to defund police and redefine public safety. Don't stop now.

[Buzzer sounding] We are behind you now and will be in three months, six months, as long as it takes. Thank you.

>> Joshua [inaudible].

>> Joshua Kade, I'm calling in support of creation of a civilian office for police accountability and the amendment proposed by councilmember Casar as a starting point to reducing scope and funding of APD by at least 75%. Our own department of justice confirms that increasing policing and incarceration does not reduce crime. APD doesn't need 40% of our

[2:57:40 PM]

tax money. It doesn't need 14 times the budget of housing and planning and five times the budget of Austin public health and 90% of the budget of small and minority business resources. So I ask you to change the status quo, reduce APD's budget and scope, and then decriminalize homelessness and drug possession. Thank you.

>> [Inaudible].

>> Hello, Kelly Rios, resident of district 4. I'm calling to support the base motion for community reinvestments. I am specifically supporting the movement to decouple the internal affairs and special investigation unit from Austin police department. APD is charged with administrative violations and criminal offenses created by fellow APD employees. Protect their own from outside complaints. It's clear from testimony in recent protests that the community does not trust

[2:58:40 PM]

APD's judgment and internal processes. The community -- he is the party in power to determine the outcome of internal affairs internal affair units staffed by the police themselves conduct substandard investigations, fail to identify and punish officers for the complaints. They regularly shield officers from being held accountable for their actions. These departments should be independent and should be staffed by non-police investigators. This is the only way for the investigations to have integrity and gain community trust.

[Buzzer].

>> Michelle Malek.

>> Hello?

>> Yes, go ahead.

>> Good afternoon. My name is Michelle with the working group representing district 1. It should make you all just

[2:59:41 PM]

disappointed in not being equitable, desired needs of the community, which is the answer [indiscernible]. The working group stands for communities of color united and seeking real solutions, rise fund, equity office, Austin public health, low income solutions. Greg and council, you will not satisfy police reform with new holidays and simply removing money to programs. The base motion seems to be so keen on violence prevention, which appears to be a future call for increased APD presence. Food and abortion access will not make the city safer in APD. Some of this is only supplemental to our demands

and some are distracting. Because this conversation has such a wide gap and so profoundly conflicting, we're asking that you delay the vote for mayor Adler suggested a six months delay to decouple funding and establish a community --

[buzzer]

[Buzzer].

>> Speaker, your time has

[3:00:43 PM]

expired.

>> Ally papa.

>> Hi. My name is Ali and I'm a resident of district 7. I support the base motion for community reinvestment and I thank my councilmember, Leslie pool, for your work on this. I especially support harper-madison's budget rider of number one, version two that authorizes spending of the police and transition budgets for only six months. I know that we only need -- we need external affairs to investigate APD and we need a civilian led

[indiscernible]. But I also ask that you guys don't stop here. This is only a first step and this is just the beginning. Right now we still need \$90 million for the rise fund, four million dollars for the equity office, 10 million for Austin public health and 115 million for low income housing. None of the proposed amendments so far do anything that comes close to adequately funding these

[3:01:43 PM]

solutions. According to a recent report by grassroots leadership there are \$50 million in surveillance and bio metrics technology contracts that could be cut from APD. As well as cutting immediately the patrol and cutting ties to support information sharing with ice.

[Buzzer]. For today I support --

[indiscernible] [Buzzer].

>> Speaker, your time has expired.

>> Dan hart.

>> This is not a prepared statement. I'm with no organization. It comes from a perspective of liberalism, bipartisanship, and I've spent 60 years active in the civil rights movement. Both my parents had a personal private meeting with Dr. Martin Luther king in his 1964 Dallas visit.

[3:02:46 PM]

I'm pro APD, I believe in supporting APD. I spent 20 years in the Texas department of corrections incarcerated and I didn't meet anyone that didn't belong there. People do not turn their lives around until they have to face consequences of their actions. APD is about the only entity out there providing consequences. They have the nicest, most polite, courteous police force I've ever seen and I've been all over the United States. So I strongly recommend that y'all look at the facts and not lobbyists that are highly organized.

[Buzzer]. Thank you.

>> Tammy olejovi.

>> Hello.

>> Yes, go ahead.

[3:03:46 PM]

>> Hi. My name is Tammy from district 7 and I am neutral towards the base motion that many of the members of city council have contributed to because I believe the proposal is not bold nor imaginative. I want to join in with orgs such as ccu and grassroots leadership in saying that imagining public safety does not need reshuffling on are decoupling departments. Taking the same staff and culture that APD currently performs and just moving them. We need to create entirely new institutions and fill them with community members who are the most directly impacted, not allow them to be infiltrated by policing mentalities. Taking the departments from forensics, APD, when they have been police it with the actions for decades. Lastly, Spencer cronk, for the love of god, please, the community is begging you, fire Manley. Since the very beginning of this process that has only involved discussion. Manley has fought tooth and

[3:04:48 PM]

nail against the baby steps

[buzzer].

[Buzzer]. Thank you.

>> For all the speakers in queue, if you have not pressed zero yet, please do so now. Thank you. Next speaker is Genevieve tell.

>> Hi, my name is Genevieve. I support the joint amendment proposal by Casar, Garza and harper-madison and I am against any proposal budget that has APD with the most funding. APD is still demonstrating gang like behavior towards protesters who only want to state that black lives matter. This past weekend APD harassed and arrested morning protesters at Garrett's vigil site. There's a complete lack of compassion and empathy. The following day more

[3:05:49 PM]

protesters were unjustly arrested and somebody was punched by an officer as they were already apprehended on the ground. Sponsor cronk, the fact that you haven't fired chief Manley speaks volumes. Rest in peace. Never forget Justin Howell, Brad and every other protester who risked their lives to demand justice. Black lives matter and free the horses. I yield my time.

>> Lera seeborn.

>> My name is Lira, I'm a resident of district 10 and a member of undoing white supremacy Austin, and I'm reading part of a statement from communities of color united for racial justice. How many fishes steps do we need to -- first steps do we need to take? It feels like we've walked miles already in first steps. The city of Austin is not

[3:06:49 PM]

ready to defund policing. When we say defund the police we are not talking about salamander sticks and civilian positions. We mean to disinvest in the policing. We don't need more sanctioned killings of more people of color. In order to divest we have to invest in the real solutions. There has not been a clear reinvestment plan or a plan to change how the city does business. 25.5 million is all that would be immediately cut, leaving the rest of the identified dollars to be spent by APD, allowing APD to continue to cause harm in our community. According to a recent report by grassroots leadership, there is a \$58 million in surveillance and bio metrics assistive technology contract that could be immediately cut with savings spread over multiple years. Another place to be cut immediately is patrol and we also need to cut ties with support and information sharing with ICE immediately. Thank you. I yield my time and we have our eyes on you.

[3:07:51 PM]

[Buzzer].

>> Jacob cernek.

>> Hi. My name is Jacob and I'm a proud public servant? District 1 represented by councilmember harper-madison. While I appreciate the intent behind much of this creative juggling and relabeling of funds with the coming year's city budget it is not enough to have a decouple and reimagine public safety fund. This does not prevent APD access for those funds, but it absolutely needs to because citizens do not want that money to go back to under APD's control and access. We don't care if you rename streets or allow murals or protests, this means nothing

[indiscernible]. What I'm saying is very simple. Please hear me. We don't want reform, we want a drastic reimagining of what public safety looks like. So please support all the proposed amendments by the councilmembers that turns APD's hq into a beneficial

[3:08:51 PM]

community structure. And to Mr. Cronk, here's an easy pro tip for you. Honor the council's declaration of no competence of chief Manley and remove him from office according to the local government code. You have the power to do so. We're telling you to do it. Go further. And fire the murdering cop Chris Taylor. Thank you.

>> Tom Wald.

>> Hi. This is Tom. We're a non-profit that shares a mission with the city of Austin and capital metro to complete the 32-mile red line between Leander and downtown Austin. This will help to complete the red line to complement our existing red line metro rail as envisioned in the 2004 election. Urban trails connect people to their everyday destinations and the transit stations just as the recently completed red line trail between 12th street and the mlk station provided access to that red line station.

[3:09:51 PM]

After the trail's completion last year if you stood on ceremony boggy creek bridge as the even train arrived you would see commuters come through. Many of our citizens do not have transportation. The trails, bike ways in this bond will help them to not just survive in the city, but to survive as equals. I urge support of the full package as proposed by councilmembers Ellis, councilmember Casar and mayor Adler. Thank you.

[Buzzer].

>> Brittany Yelverton.

>> Hello, can you hear me?

>> Yes, go ahead.

>> Fabulous. Thank you. My name is Brittany. I'm a resident of district 2, a member of undoing white supremacy Austin. I'm reading part of the statement from communities

[3:10:51 PM]

of color united for racial justice. We will not tolerate this while the council is patting themselves on the back and posturing. A half-million-dollar police budget, an overhaul of billions of dollars and a department that will be under funded during a pandemic, very little dollars going to families. Very little to the equity office. And nothing in regards to low income housing as people face displacement and evictions. Sounds like business as usual. Reimagining requires an imagination and clearly our leadership is lacking in that area. In order to invest we have to invest in real solutions. There has not been a clear reinvestment plan nor a which plan to change how the city does business. I yield my time.

>> Victoria Espinoza.

>> Hi. My name is Victoria Espinoza, I'm a resident of district 2 and an Austin native. We need to defund APD. They're not only ineffective, but racist. A study released by APD shows

[3:11:51 PM]

that black and brown citizens are stopped at rates disproportionately higher than the percentage of the populations they make up. I urge council to prioritize our black and brown and low income communities by investing in rise funding to provide families with direct cash assistance, invest in Austin public health childcare task force to stabilize childcare providers and provide more childcare subsidies for low income families. Invest questionably in our parks and rec department and know that equity and equality are not the same. Keep our black and brown other communities in your mind as you work through this budget. Thank you.

>> Liz metz.

[3:13:04 PM]

We'll call her back. Kevin kel much. Welch.

>> Can you hear me?

>> Yes, go ahead.

>> Dear representatives of the council, my name is Kevin and I'm a native citizen of Austin, Texas. I'm calling again today to express my support for the Casar, harper-madison, Garza, pool, kitchen

amendment to the budget. Citizens have demanded real reform as represented by a substantial reduction in APD's budget and a reallocation of savings in programs that better serve the community and these proposed changes begin to answer that call. The:egg of the police family for -- the closing of the police academy for a year, moving the forensics, 911, internal affairs, traffic management and other departments out of APD's jurisdiction and the reimagining of what policing looks like in Austin are all necessary first steps on the road to a safer society. The work doesn't end here, but it represents a first step. Providing the council follows through with the

[3:14:07 PM]

proposed 150 in cuts and makes the reallocated funds inaccessible by APD.

[Buzzer].

[Buzzer]

>> Monique McMullin.

>> Hi, my name is Monique McMullin and I am a case manager and advocate for survive to thrive foundation. Everyone within the survive to thrive team including myself have been working endlessly to provide sexual abuse violence and victims support of safety, support, counseling, food and resources to stabilize their future. It is our fundamental right to have freedom and ability to progress within our lives without being harmed. Adding survive and thrive to the admission of Austin's budget makes sure that austinities, especially children, deserve to have available. I request funding for

[3:15:08 PM]

survive to thrive to we can better serve and protect. I worked with a victim of domestic violence that suffers from the result of her husband inflicting intense physical and mental harm. She and her children are facing years of healing from trauma, control and abuse of power. We had to relocate her out of Texas and in fact her husband is an Austin police officer. Thank you for your time.

>> Gabe columbo.

>> Gabe, please unmute your phone.

>> Sorry about that. Good afternoon. My name is Gabe, born and raised in district 7. I'm calling with the Austin outside coalition in support of items 10 and 11 authorizing a 450-million-dollar active transportation bond proposition for the November ballot. Special thanks to councilmember Ellis for sponsoring these and to

[3:16:08 PM]

mayor Adler and councilmembers harper-madison and Casar for supporting them. The prioritization of car infrastructure in Austin has left many austinites unable to or cannot afford to drive without a reliable way to get around their city. In addition, historic underinvestment in sidewalks and communities of color has lead to these communities experiencing a disproportionate share of deaths in traffic crashes. A significant bond package would support the sidewalk network to meet the Austin strategic mobility plan goals we're legally obligated to achieve and make it safer and more equitable for all austinites to get around the city regardless of their age, income or ability. Thanks so much.

>> Liz metz.

>> [Speaking Spanish].

[3:18:14 PM]

[Buzzer].

>> Councilmember Casar, were you going to say something? You may be on mute approximate.

-- You may be on mute.

>> Can't hear you.

>> Still on mute. You've lost sound. You may need to go out and come back.

>> I'm assuming he was going to maybe ask for translation for the speaker.

>> I'm going to -- this is Myrna in the clerk's office. We did not receive any requests for Spanish speakers so I was caught off guard. I will call her and take her

[3:19:15 PM]

statement and read it back.

>> Garza: Thank you.

>> Sure. The next speaker is Paul Robbins.

>> Council, commenting on complex matters is now much more difficult. You've banned general citizens communication at council and city commissions. As example, city staff just made a deal for a gas rate increase of about \$51 million without council approval, normally I would have protested quickly and loudly, but I'm all but prohibited from this unless an item is posted. Regarding police, I've been to so many protests and public hearings that I've lost counseled decades ago, -- I've lost count decades ago,

but I've never March to protesters carrying loaded assault weapons and I won't in the future. And I've never harassed a councilmember I did not agree with by marching on

[3:20:15 PM]

their house. I believe in police reform, but if Progressives get this Ong and crime rises appreciably, we could lose this opportunity for a generation. Look how long it's taking for your homeless initiatives to work. Thank you.

[Buzzer]. Thank you.

>> The next speaker is Caitlin Chang.

>> Hi. I'm a fourth generation Austin native and homeowner in district 1. I'm calling to support my support -- I'm calling to express my support of the budget proposals by councilman Greg Casar. I would also like to express my gratitude to councilmember Flannigan for addressing down Spencer cronk and Brian Manley in a previous meeting. I strongly urge city council to remove sponsor cronk, Brian Manley and Ken

[3:21:15 PM]

Cassaday from their positions. I've seen protesters trampled and beaten, all because these protesters are standing up to APD's racism and cruelty. APD has also failed to arrest Daniel peri. He is effectively condemning the murder of protesters and that is unacceptable. I question why such a huge portion of our police officers are not Austin residents. I would like for more of our police to be from and live in Austin. Shouldn't those who protect and serve us come from our own communities, rather than the neighboring conservative satellite towns? Thank you for your time --

[buzzer].

>> The next speaker is Daniel zureg.

>> Hello. I'm a resident of district 1. I call on council to follow through with measures to defund the Austin police department and cut the APD budget by a minimum of half.

[3:22:19 PM]

Paid administration for cops

[indiscernible] Must cease. Cops must be liable for misconduct settlements. All participation in police militarization programs must also cease. Reallocated funds should be put towards social and cultural

programs to create a future where a violent police force is used to intimidate citizens into submission. Funds must be directed to programs that are in education, affordable housing, community centers, mental health resources, arts programs and social aid rather than oversight and enforcement. I call on council to adopt all measures of the immediate reinvestment and long-term change plan. Black lives matter. I yield my time.

>> For all the speakers in queue, if you haven't yet pressed zero, please do so now. Thank you. The next speaker is Monica Guzman.

>> Can you hear me?

>> Yes, go ahead.

[3:23:19 PM]

>> Good afternoon. I'm Monica Guzman. Council has declared racism a public health crisis. Take the next step. Reimagine public safety by asking the community, especially black and latinx communities what public safety means to them. We urge council to reallocate funds from APD and other resources to increase funding for these critical needs that will support better public safety and health equity. Release 30 million for the need for the most impacted in districts 1 through five in this pandemic and after. Invest 50 million for rise funds. Distribute funds to equity office making it easier for impacted residents to receive financial support. Reurge council and the city manager to stand by their pledges to address systemic inequities. We urge you to invest in the community. Remember, public safety is public health. In closing, I want to share a quote. History will remember 2020 as the moment that pointed us in the direction of justice because this was the

[3:24:22 PM]

year that has seen injustice unlike any time before.

[Buzzer].

>> The next speaker is Debra Salinas.

>> My name is web Debora and I live in district 8. We're looking at community reinvestment and I hope that we are putting some money into the local grassroots organizations and leaders that are already have been doing effective proven work. The smaller groups too like restorative justice groups, many other groups have built already relationships with sectors all over our community. I'm also a member of undoing white racism and supremacy in Austin and so I'd like to go back and read one of the older statements from the communities of color united and what they said. On the outset, the joint council budget proposal appears to remove \$150 million from APD, however, on closer

[3:25:23 PM]

examination, the current budgets proposal includes only 21 and a half million dollars in immediate cuts and reallocation. Yes, that number has decreased since this statement was prepared yesterday. The remaining 129 million --

[buzzer].

[Indiscernible].

[Buzzer].

>> The next speaker is Sarah

[inaudible].

>> Good afternoon. I am calling today in solidarity with communities of color and my district 7 councilmember Leslie pool. I want to remind elected officials whose responsibility lies with the people who put their trust in you by electing you, not in the will of your own priorities. As a community we're demanding a budget that prioritizes equity, prioritizes health and prioritizes prosperity for

[3:26:23 PM]

the whole community. We want more community led responses to calls that are non-criminal in nature. And we want to fund mental health diversion programs. We are calling on you, mayor Adler, and our city councilmembers, please defund the Austin police department. Invest in our communities, not commodities. Rest in peace Mike Ramos, rest in piece Garrett foster. The city of Austin has failed our most vulnerable people but we continue to fight in their name. All of the power to all of the people. I yield my time.

>> The next speaker is cliff Kaplan.

>> Hi. My name is cliff. I live in district 5. And I want to voice my support for the positions of communities of color united and grassroots leadership for their work. This time and the decades to

[3:27:23 PM]

come are going to require us to increasingly look out for one another as a community and to be willing to make changes quickly to address new problems and in this case age old problems of racism and inequity in our community. So now is the time to start looking for meaningful

[indiscernible]. Thank you.

>> The next speaker is Katherine Goodwin.

>> My name is Kathie Goodwin. I'm a resident of district 9 and a member of undoing white supremacy Austin, and I'm reading part of a statement from communities of color united for racial justice. The remaining 129 million of the proposal is divided into a decouple fund and a reimagine public safety fund.

[3:28:24 PM]

This is an accounting change that shifts the money into independent accounts outside of APD. However, Austin police department APD will still be able to access this money to continue the functions outlined under these categories. Until the city manager and council come up with an alternative. So this represents an intended, not an actual or immediate change. Furthermore, some of the items in the decouple and reimagine public safety fund could easily end up fully or partially back under APD after the revisioning process. Because of legal issues or unwillingness by some councilmembers to consider firing sworn officers --

[buzzer]. Thank you.

>> Thank you. If there are any callers on the line, if you can please press zero.

[3:29:30 PM]

It looks like we have a

[indiscernible] Washington on the line. Go ahead. >>

>> Caroline Washington, go ahead.

>> My name is Caroline Washington. I'm part of the working group and I am representing district 1 [inaudible].

[No audio].

[3:30:32 PM]

>> We'll need to call her back. Mayor, if you can give us one second, we're calling the speaker back.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Do we have any more speakers that are queued at the palmer center?

>> Yes. If we can have jao Connally.

>> Okay. Hello, everybody. Good afternoon. This weekend we witnessed APD actively violent the first amendment rights of protesters in the streets, randomly arresting and

[3:31:33 PM]

intimidating activists. And we were reminded once again, though we hardly need reminding, that APD is not willing or able to change its violent internal culture. Its leadership will continue to insist on the culture of violence and intimidation that stains it. So I will repeat here again loud and clear, chief Manley must resign. I want to thank the members of city council, including Casar, harper-madison, Delia Garza, kitchen, pool, who have been courageous enough to propose bold cuts and reallocations to the APD budget, freeing up money in the general fund for alternatives to policing and for real investment in the community. I am in firm support of these amendments proposed. However, I am not going to be celebrating victory yet. This will be the beginning of a long process that will require constant community engagement and participation. We have to get it right. We have to be vigilant and active. And time is of the essence. So we have to safeguard against the traps of bureaucracy and old, slow,

[3:32:33 PM]

administrative processes that can make this inefficient. Thank you. This is the beginning of a new era in public safety. Thank you.

[Buzzer].

>> Next speaker is Natalie Goodnow.

>> Yes, hello. Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I'm speaking in support of the amendments proposed that would reduce the APD budget and fund real solutions instead that have been proposed by communities of color united, but I encourage you to go beyond the amendments proposed and meet the demand to defund by 50%. Like the previous speaker said; I believe this will be a long process and that -- my son is trying to get the phone. Sorry. And that there will be multiple times when I'll need to testify.

[3:33:34 PM]

Each time I intend to dedicate my testimony to a family member who has died prematurely due to racism who might still be alive if we had already invested in real solutions. And today I dedicate my testimony, excuse me, I'm sorry. This one is quite fresh. To my mother-in-law who died of covid-19 six weeks ago.

[Indiscernible]. Thank you.

[Buzzer].

>> Mayor and council, we have Liz, she is a Spanish speaker. I took her statement, but she is on the line. I'm going to go ahead and read her statement, but she is on the line should you have questions after. She mentioned that she is a mother of -- a single mother of two, wants the community to be safe, that she supports -- she's speaking on item 1, supports

[3:34:36 PM]

councilmember Casar, mayor pro tem and harper-madison's stance. She tested positive for covid and is still recovering. She is essential to her family and her community. She's employed at a restaurant as a host and again, she is a sole provider for her family. So any help that can be given is appreciated. With regard to the police department, she mentioned that she is afraid of the police, she views them as ice. And that concludes her comment. She is on the line should you have any questions.

>> Mayor Adler: Thank you.

>> Casar: Mayor, before we hear from the next% I want to see if y'all can hear me?

>> Mayor Adler: Yes.

[3:35:37 PM]

>> Casar: Thank you.

>> Mayor, do we proceed?

>> Mayor Adler: Yes.

>> The next speaker is Ana pareda. Next speaker is Yvette Dela mora.

>> My name is Yvette.

[3:36:39 PM]

I am hispanic, a person of color, two-year citizen of Austin and survivor of fleeing the government oppression of California. This year I'm considered a senior citizen and greatly offended by the idea of defunding the police and increasing taxes. Regarding policing, who is to defend the weaker community of children and seniors? The notion of social services to police is insane. Social services grounded in bureaucracy results in delayed responses and jeopardy of lives. Believing people need no policing is

careless and naive, proof of that, riots and protests. Assuming people will thrive without policing is reckless. Regarding increased property taxes. How in this economy are citizens to acquire additional monies when ability to work is restricted. Previous statements made from what appear by a not well rounded not educated generation demonstrates lack of life experience is a threat to today's city

[3:37:39 PM]

government. I am pleading with you to do what is right -- [buzzer]. For better training, better pay.

[Buzzer].

[Buzzer].

>> Speaker, your time has expired.

>> Mayor, we're taking in-person comment, so I'm going to queue speakers. The next speaker is Sarah black. After Sarah black is Eli winklemanman. After Eli is Austin graham. Sarah, you have one minute.

>> Public input is muted.

[3:38:41 PM]

>> Sarah black?

>> When a long train of abuses enters

[indiscernible], it is their right, it is their duty to throw off such government. I think that's where we are today. You've heard a long list of abuses by the Austin police and we need a new guard, we need Spencer cronk gone, we need new leadership at APD so that people here have basic rights. Like life, liberty, pursuit of happiness. Basic institutional rights. We don't have that today. So please, take away as much money as we can because they're not even doing their jobs. That's not their job. Their main job is to protect our rights and they're not doing that. So please take away that

[3:39:43 PM]

money. If I had more time then I would have that when I finally got the police report that I've been waiting for for several months I found that they had basically just switched it so I would not have my rights. That's what happened. That's not their job. Their job is to protect me. Not protect themselves. Thank you.

[Buzzer].

>> Tara, you're next.

>> Tara tucker, you're up.

>> Tara tucker, state director for alliance for safety and justice. Asj is a national organization dedicated to helping leadership identify and implement new safety priorities that shift from a system of overincarceration to one that promotes trauma recovery, rehabilitation and programs and services that break the cycle of crime.

[3:40:43 PM]

Crime survivors for safety and justice is a flagship program with more than 2500 members in Austin joining together to create healing communities and shape public safety priorities. We are asking that you please support including funding for our trauma recovery center in the long range plan. The work you've done is phenomenal, but the survivors of crime that has been most harmed will help to reduce the need for traditional experiencing. Trauma recovery centers are best practices and focus on meeting the needs of crime survivors who are underserved by additional survivors, including survivors of color. Trauma recovery centers intentionally -- [buzzer].

>> Eli Winkleman.

[3:41:48 PM]

>> Hi. This is Ellie. I grew up in Austin and I'm a resident of district 9. Over the past couple of months I've been increasingly disturbed by the behavior and attitude that I've seen within APD, but I am heartened by y'all's commitment to reallocate funds and responsibilities outside of APD. And so I urge everyone who hasn't yet signed on to support the modifications by councilmembers Garza, Casar and harper-madison. Thank you.

>> Elizabeth kubela.

>> Elizabeth, go ahead.

[3:42:58 PM]

Next speaker is Austin graham.

>> Hi. My name is Austin, district 2. I'm against the proposed budget and demand a minimum of 50% of APD's budget be cut and reallocated. The funds should be reallocated by the community's most affected, not from city council who has sold out Austin to land developers and enabled our city to be the

most economically segregated in the nation. The Tatum report showed us that APD was riddled with racism, sexism and homophobia on paper and the protests showed it. Ken Cassaday is a racist

[indiscernible] And all officers who shot, maced, beat and threatened protesters. We need police and prison appear big. APD is a terrorist organization that violently beats protesters, but releases murderers like

[3:43:58 PM]

Daniel Perry and doesn't handcuff a man who assaulted salamander with bear mace and a machete because he did what the police wanted him to do and they took him away peacefully. Thank you.

>> Is there any speakers in the queue who have not pressed zero, then please do so now. Thank you. Next speaker is Katie drakert.

>> Desegregation was once a radical idea, yet we progressed. Defunding APD and supporting Cesar's amendment to reallocate funds to support the community seems like a radical idea. We will progress. Council, approximately how many hours of testimonies do you need? How much footage of APD beating protesters and killing civilians must you witness? How many years of statistics showing people of color are disproportionately arrested

[3:44:58 PM]

will be considered enough for change? How many black and brown lives must be lost for you to get into good trouble? Enough is enough. We need bold and courageous leaders who see the value of change, who see the opportunities created by funding the community, not police. You've heard the numbers, you've heard our demands, but are you listening. Vote on our budget as if the mothers of these victims are sitting next to you. Videos as if the lives of black and brown children depend on it. Vote as if you believe in the movements you claim to support. Black lives matter.

>> Next speaker is don dulles.

>> Hello, how you doing? I'm Donald. This for me is bigger than defunding APD. It's morale indicating those funds to specifically the community that y'all have

[3:45:59 PM]

been dehumanizing and disproportionately profiling for more than 100 years. As we can start with the Negro district of 1928. If we're going to build this city off of diversity, we must atone to the mistakes and the dehumanizing that this city has done to the specific people of the African-American community or

we're going to totally disburse. Hike I said, defunding the police -- those funds can be reallocated to program specifically to help economics within the African-American community because I believe that with the help of economics, all of the crime rates and all of the bad stipulations that bad people will have start to lower. That's pretty much all I have to say. Thank you.

>> Jon-paul.

>> I think we've seen that

[3:47:08 PM]

APD is not up to the task and I commend the five of you who have co-sponsored the proposal. For the rest, please get on board. Thank you.

>> Jordan Gutierrez.

>> My name is Jordan Gutierrez. I think I can speak on behalf of all districts. I'm a black Mexican man and I wanted to say that as being a victim of police brutality by APD, I can say myself that since day one they brutalized, terrorized, hospitalized and just traumatized this community. So not listen to this proposal and to not headache heed and to listen to what the youth are saying, the people are saying in this city and all cities across this nation will be

[3:48:09 PM]

completely disrespectful. When we talk about reimagining public safety and what that looks like, you know, overpolicing our communities is not the answer. Police is not the answer. We're talking about reallocating funds to preventive measures, when we have a base right now that's structured on persecution and punishment instead of prevention and rehabilitation, all I can say is that community reparations to our cities of color, black and brown communities, this is a moral rehabilitation. The cities not only Austin, but across the nation.

[Buzzer]. Thank you.

>> If there are any speakers in the queue and you have not hit zero, please do so now. Caroline Washington.

[3:49:10 PM]

>> Hi -- [overlapping speakers].

>> Hi, my name is Caroline Washington and I am a member of the working group. I am calling to represent district 1 and I was calling to share my feelings in regards to defunding APD and having those funds reallocated to programs such as low housing and for black business owners. I'd like to see the monies put towards district 1 -- put towards district 1 to the communities that will benefit the black and brown in those communities. And I'd like to yield the rest of my time.

>> Mayor, that concludes all the in-person and phone call speakers.

>> Mayor Adler: Those are all the speakers, both

[3:50:11 PM]

in-person and remote. Colleagues, that gets back to us. It is 3:50. So we have some time before 5:00. As we had talked about doing, the first two items we're going to take up will be items 14 and 15. These are the items that we took action on last week. We're going to revote on two project connect items that we considered on Friday the seventh. This is due to some equipment problems that occurred such that the public may not have been able to see or clearly hear our votes last week. The entire meeting was recorded on atxn and the video is now up on the city's website. We're going to first take up 14, which is the joint local government agreement -- joint local government corporation to implement project connect, creating that. And then 15 is the

[3:51:11 PM]

resolution that provides guidance on dedicated the tax revenue I'll be referring to as the contract with voters. As we did last week, if there's not objection we will consider both these as being moved by the entire council, and I see no objection, so that is moved. Let's first ask for comments or discussion on item number 14, interlocal agreement. Councilmember kitchen.

>> Kitchen: I just want to confirm, I think you said this, but just in case the public doesn't understand, we had quite a bit of discussion which was very helpful, I think, on both of these items. And I am understanding from what you're saying is all of that discussion was recorded and is being kept on the record.

>> Mayor Adler: That's my understanding. City attorney, is that true?

[3:52:12 PM]

>> Yes, that's a correct statement, it is up on atxn website and will be kept like all of our meetings are, and the vote that you're going to take today is on exactly the same thing that you took a vote about last Friday.

>> Kitchen: Okay. Then I will not repeat all of the items that we discussed, I just wanted to make sure they were still on the reported.

>> Mayor Adler: Sounds good, and they are. Let's take a vote then on this item number 14. Those if favor please raise your hand? And I am looking and seeing, it appears as if it is unanimous, so item number 14 passes. That gets us to item number 15, which is the contract with the voters on this project connect item, taking -- approving it and setting out those terms. Again, without objection, this is a motion urged by everyone on the dais. No objection, then that's how it will be moved. Is there any comment or

[3:53:12 PM]

discussion with respect to this item? Okay. Let's go ahead and take a vote. Those in favor of this item 15 please raise your hand? Those opposed? It is also unanimous on the dais. Items 14 and 15 then have been passed. Pretty exciting. Exciting to do this a second time, no? All right. Colleagues, we're now going to move toward item number 1. This is an ordinance that is adopting the city's budget for fiscal year 2020-2021. We have heard from the speakers on this item and we are now going to be taking action at the end of the hearing as is required by state law. We're going to start with the staff presentation so

[3:54:15 PM]

that we can hear if there are any changes or additions coming from staff. So manager, you guys have worked really hard on this project and I really appreciate the work that was done. This is not an easy task to do, especially in a year like ours that is with the pandemic and all of the social movement and energy and long hours. The work is recognized and helping marshal us through this process in a constructive way is no easy task. Manager, I turn it over to you.

>> Cronk: Thank you, mayor and council and community. As I wait for our deputy chief financial officer to get moved on the panelist section of this so he can bring up the presentation, I'll just appreciate the

[3:55:15 PM]

work that has gone into this by our city staff. We know it's a challenging budget to put together and done in a faster time frame than we normally would, so we had the opportunity to consider a tax rate election as part of project connect. So besides the overall challenges of being in a financial discussion

around our economic challenges here and then the need to ensure that we have the resources to keep our city running effectively. With that I'll turn it over to Ed van eenoo.

>> Van eenoo: Thanks, city manager. Mayor, council, my staff sent you an updated backup document for today's meeting, we sent one out last night and there was an update that was sent out I believe around noon that is listed as 8.12.20. So I just want to make sure that you have our extensive backup materials for today's

[3:56:16 PM]

meeting. We have our I.T. People with us. Could you bring up that PDF document with the same date at the end of the file name. One thing I want to mention to you council before we get started is that PDF document we sent to you has a number of bookmarks in it so I hope you've been able to identify that and are using the bookmarks that makes it easy to navigate around to the different components of this extensive document. If you open the document in your PDF reader to the left-hand side of your screen you should see some icons. I don't know how to describe the bookmark icon, but it's right above the paperclip. If you click on that it will open up and you will be able to see all the bookmarks in the document and again making it easy to navigate between the materials. There are four main categories to the bookmarks.

[3:57:17 PM]

There's our staff operating amendments that I'll walk you through in a moment. There's a section of the bookmarks for your combined council budget amendments so we had a number of budget amendments that council will be going through today. There's a section on budget riders and then finally there's a section on staff and fee schedule amendments which we won't get to until we get to item two on the agenda. So I want to spend a little bit of time laying that out. In total it's a 158 page document so I want to make sure you have the most current document and you're fully utilizing the ability to navigate through that document. I'm going to move right into the budget amendments and I can see we're already there. On slide two here. I've only got three slides worth of amendments. This won't take very long and then we'll turn it back to councilmembers to go through amendments you might want to offer. I think we're still up one.

[3:58:18 PM]

We're on slide two for the I.T. Folks. There we are. So the first amendment is to reallocate some money that we put into the proposed budget in management services. So as part of the proposed budget we added three million dollars to achieve the things you can see on this slide in blue, additional funding and

staffing for the police oversight office and for the equity office, the police department general order rewrites. At the time we put the proposed budget together we did not have all the details of that work out. We do now and so we would just seek your approval to add nine positions to -- add nine positions to the office of police oversight and five positions to the equity office with that funding. That's not the whole funding. There's also funding that's going to pay for the other things that are on this list, but the office of police oversight and the equity office are both recommending to you the additional

[3:59:21 PM]

let's move on to the next slide, please. This next amendment does a couple things. First, it shifts one position out of economic development department. This is a position from the music division of economic development, that reduces their budget by \$74,114. That then becomes part of the budget increase we're proposing to dsd. Our development services department is also asking for additional appropriations for office costs and support costs related to the new music and entertainment permitting function that they'll be taking responsibility for. To add funding for temporary staff to support the small permitting efforts going on. So the budget will increase by \$237,470. Go to the next slide, please. This is my final slide of amendments. We are proposing here as a staff

[4:00:22 PM]

amendment to transfer five positions out of the Austin police department's budget. The staffing -- the actual positions would move out to the communications and public information office. You can see that one would be for additional resources to support city-wide communication needs. I think these are -- and for the newly created public safety communications program. Sorry, I got those two backwards. 4, to provide additional resources to marketing communications divisions, and 1, for the public safety communications program. The next one is to carry forward \$594,000 of unexpended funds from fiscal year '20 to fiscal year '21.

[4:01:26 PM]

I'm afraid that our -- I think our I.T. People have the wrong slide up. That's kind of why I'm -- it seems like there's something wrong with this slide. I'll read the next one, but there's one more we have to get to. The next one is to increase the budget of the emergency management services department to accept an additional higher than expected from tlaum a care system grant amount. It would go up from 48,000 to \$55,000. So now I need to pause and ask our I.T. Folks, is this a PDF document that you have on the screen for us, or is it a powerpoint document?

>> This is PDF.

>> And that file ends with the date August 12th -- or 8.12.20?

>> Oh, I'm not sure.

[4:02:26 PM]

I'd have to look at that.

>> Everything I've read so far is fine. But there is one additional amendment that I'll just read in without a slide, if we can't get the right presentation up. Mayor, I don't think it's important that it be on the slide. But the final amendment would be related to your previous actions on project connect, and it would read per council direction, the tax rate for project connect recognized additional property tax revenue from 8.75 cents and

[4:03:26 PM]

transfer this additional revenue to the Austin transit partnership. So that's our final amendment. And I think it's okay that it's not up on the screen currently. And I would turn it back over to you, mayor, and we'll try to get the right document on the screen.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. So those are all the changes that you're making to the base budget?

>> Yes, sir.

>> Mayor?

>> Mayor Adler: Yes

>> I would just note for Ed's benefit, the document that was sent to us by Diane earlier does have the project connect, the correct additional amendment in it. Even if the screen doesn't.

>> I apologize for that. I think the last-minute change in our virtual world did not get uploaded to where the I.T. folks are pulling the files. So you should all have the correct document that has the additional project connect.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay.

[4:04:27 PM]

Thank you. All right, colleagues. My sense in looking at the message board posting is that much of the work that we normally spend the first day or two on, working with budgets, seem to have been engaged in a message board posting by everyone, here over the last two, three weeks. And I think that that holds

us in good stead. So what I believe to be the consensus of the group is that we would begin by offering a base motion. The base motion would include the budget as proposed by the city manager, the changes as

[4:05:29 PM]

were just added by Mr. Van henew, together with the changes as posted by councilmember Casar. And I'm only talking about the monetary changes at this point, not anything having to do with

(indiscernible) Or fees. Councilmember Casar, do you want to make that motion? I can't hear you. Councilmember Casar makes the motion. You may need to come out and come back in. And mayor pro tem seconds that motion. Also seconded by councilmember harper-madison. Two seconds on that motion. So let's continue on. It's been moved and seconded. We're going to now have

[4:06:31 PM]

discussion on the matter as proposed. Is there any discussion at this point? Ordinarily I would ask councilmember Casar to start, we'll come back to him. But I'll ask councilmember harper-madison to go first. Councilmember Casar, can you hear me?

>> Casar: I just wanted to make sure you didn't pass the budget while I was gone here. The base motion would include -- let me pull that up really quickly. The base motion would include, as you stated, the manager's budget with the amendments listed, along with harper-madison 4, 550,000 ongoing, for Austin public health urgent staffing needs, which is different than what we

[4:07:32 PM]

had before today. This is an update from aph. Harper-madison 5, harper-madison 6 on reentry programs, which is 200,000 one time and 200,000 ongoing. Harper-madison 8, which is the 1.35 million one time and workforce development. Garza 1, Casar 1, 2 and 3, which are the -- the three funds, immediate reinvestments, the reimagined safety funds which were co-sponsored by myself, the mayor pro tem, councilmember harper-madison, councilmember pool and kitchen. Casar 4, the family violence shelter and the certificates of obligation, to handle that. Casar 5 and 6, pool 2, which is the community health paramedics, and also includes the debt to achieve that. Pool 4, pool 5, Ellis 1, which

[4:08:35 PM]

has \$300,000 ongoing, and has the cos that councilmember Ellis has listed in her amendment. Ellis 3, tovo 1, tovo 2, alter 2, which is the ems item. And then the portion of Casar 7 that is the 2472 shift. Just that additional 475,000 one time in addition to alter 2. And then issues the Kos for the equipment costs. Alter 3, violence prevention, which is 1.4 million ongoing and 450,000 one time. Alter 5, which also includes myself as well as alter 6. So that is the motion that does not include the (indiscernible) With the budget writers.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. That's the motion. Any discussion on your motion?

[4:09:38 PM]

>> Can we read the list one more time? Sorry.

>> It essentially brings us to the spreadsheet as posted most recently. So I'm going to speed read it now. With the ongoing and one-time in debt caveats that I listed last time, I'm not going to re-read those. But with all of that considered, harper-madison 4, 5, 6 and 8. Garza 1, Casar 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, pool 2 and 4 and 5, Ellis 1 and 3, tovo 1 and 2, alter 2 and 3, with the addition of the small slice of Casar 7, alter 5, and alter 6. That leaves the budget writers still pending as well as those that have to do with these.

[4:10:44 PM]

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Can we have a motion -- we have a motion in front of us that has been seconded. Harper-madison or mayor pro tem, do you want to say anything before we go? Okay. Councilmember alter?

>> Alter: Thank you.

(Indiscernible) Clarifications later, I just want to clarify for the base motion, whether we are in (indiscernible) Harper-madison 2 and alter 4 in that, which is the capital -- I proposed to move the capital rehabilitation funds that were going to be for the public safety tract of \$750,000 and we coupled that with harper-madison's recommendation to fund park maintenance according to the schedule that was in harper-madison 2.

[4:11:47 PM]

>> Mayor Adler: Councilmember Casar?

>> I just wanted clarity, because that's not a fee.

>> Casar: That is not a fee. It must have gotten accidentally caught in my list of fees. So I'm happy to, mayor, go through whatever procedure to include those two that have to do with the east Austin recreation centers.

>> Alter: Just to clarify, it's the schedule she put in her --

>> Casar: Got it. So that was harper-madison 2, alter 4.

>> Alter: Yes. And I have a message that I was going to put up before just since we're talking about these, I just want to confirm that I do want to be listed as a co-sponsor on 2, and if the co-sponsors on 2 want to be listed on my 4, I'm fine with that. I just wasn't sure the appropriate procedure, so I put in 2 as well.

[4:12:49 PM]

>> Mayor Adler: Mr. Van henan, do you understand what that issue is with respect to 2 and 4? This was the track money being spent alternatively on different maintenance. I can't hear you. You're muted.

>> I'm familiar with the issue of the track. I'm not following what the changes we're trying to make are.

>> Mayor Adler: Would you explain those, councilmember alter?

>> Alter: Sure, I'm simply trying to include -- so my motion alter 4 moves the money from the track to park rks. Harper-madison's 2 proposes a way to spend that money on the recreation centers according to the energy efficiency plan so it would be moving the \$750,000

[4:13:50 PM]

that's currently being applied to the public safety track, and applying them to park recreation centers to be spent according to that study with the outline as the starting point that's in her amendment.

>> That's fine.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Colleagues, is there any discussion of this -- for this item? I think we received -- councilmember harper-madison?

>> Harper-madison: I'm just -- just for clarification, I'm just curious why number 1 isn't in the base motion. Is it because it came from the general? I have 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, but not 1.

>> Mayor Adler: Councilmember Casar?

>> Casar: I would be happy to include it, councilmember harper-madison. I had heard from staff they thought they could do that without --

>> Harper-madison: Okay.

[4:14:50 PM]

That's the clarification I was looking for. Thank you.

>> Casar: If they don't have to change the budget, that's why it wasn't in.

>> Harper-madison: I appreciate that, thank you.

>> Mayor Adler: So is that true, that is part of this budget,

(indiscernible) Becomes an optional holiday?

>> That's true. But I think the way it's worded is specific in regard to --

>> Mayor Adler: It's non-sworn employees. Is that correct? Is that correct, councilmember harper-madison, as I recall?

>> Harper-madison: That's correct.

>> Mayor Adler: Is that your understanding of that issue?

>> I think the councilmember member had worked with our hr department and I believe they are on the line. I think they can come over. But --

>> Harper-madison number 1 would only apply to civilians, but

[4:15:54 PM]

(indiscernible).

>> Mayor Adler: I think part of that was enterprise costs, and the general fund cost was 43,000 or something like that?

>> That is correct.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. So we want to make that -- I recognize it doesn't require an effort, I mean, that it can be handled. But for right now, let's go ahead and put that in, and note that. Without objection, colleagues. And if hr has an issue with that, or we need to handle it differently, let's make that part of what this budgeted adoption includes. That's making June teen a holiday for the general fund cost for about \$43,000. Okay? Further discussion about this -- so we handled that. We were asking for discussion on councilmember alter's and

[4:16:55 PM]

councilmember harper-madison's 1 and 4, which was the track being moved into maintenance. Does anybody want to discuss that item? Councilmember alter?

>> Alter: I just want to clarify it was harper-madison's 1 was the juneteenth part.

>> Mayor Adler: Harper-madison 4 and alter 1, as I recall.

>> Alter: It's harper-madison 2 and alter 4 related to the rec center stuff.

>> Mayor Adler: Thank you. Any discussion on this? Councilmember kitchen?

>> Kitchen:.

>> Mayor Adler: You're muted.

>> Kitchen: Just want to make sure I'm understanding the process. So we're putting this forward and leaving it on the table and

[4:17:55 PM]

adding on top of it, is that what we're doing?

>> Mayor Adler: We're not leaving it on the table, the base motion is the base motion, now we're making changes to the base motion.

>> Kitchen: Okay.

>> Mayor Adler: So amendment to the base motion.

>> Kitchen: So when we go through our budget writers, we'll be amending our budget writers onto the base motion?

>> Mayor Adler: When we get there, that is correct.

>> Kitchen: I have comments that I want to make on items that are in the base motion. I don't want to take them out, but --

>> Mayor Adler: We'll get to those comments in just a second. But the one we're on right now, which is the track issue, and the refurbish issue, is there any further discussion on that? Councilmember tovo?

>> Tovo: Just a quick one. We had budgeting for the mill enyem center. I would appreciate the staff's confirming this, my understanding is that the money that we allocated in that budget session for the theater

[4:18:57 PM]

refurbishment, or the theater repair of the projector and some other things was insufficient to actually meet the needs that were there. So I just want to verify that. And two, make sure that we're capturing that funding, too. I can't quite remember how much it was. But also to ask that if the staff -- you know, generally, if we passed funding allocations like that in the budget, and it was, you know, a source of conversation, and it was an immediate need, and then the work didn't happen, that we -- that the staff circle around back to us and let us know that. In as timely a fashion as possible so that we're able to address what to do next. I don't know if we have staff on the line that can speak to that. That previous allocation.

>> Mayor Adler: Councilmember harper-madison?

>> Harper-madison: Councilmember

[4:19:58 PM]

tovo, I'm going to text you. I know what's going on there. And it's complicated. And I don't know that it's one that we should do from the dais as opposed to executive session. So I'll text you and Ann Morgan real quick. And if you have more questions, I'm -- and Ann says it's appropriate, that this is the appropriate forum, then I'm happy to fill you in on there.

>> Thank you for that. We can talk about it after today, too. Because I'm going to support this allocation. I think it's really necessary. My comment, I guess, is, one, I would like to better understand that previous decision and where that went. And just also, to ask the city manager, it's really a suggestion to the manager, a request to the manager that if we pass things in this budget or earlier budget cycles that can't move forward for one reason or another, that you make sure you circle back around with the council and let us know, so we can determine the appropriate next steps to make sure that work happens. And apologies if you did that and I just missed it.

[4:20:58 PM]

But I don't recall hearing about this in a memo after we passed that additional money. So thank you, councilmember harper-madison. I'll connect with you if we have more time after today.

> Mayor Adler: I have a question. As it relates to the decoupling, reimagine safety funds, is it the intent not to limit the police chief's ability to move personnel between department units during the fiscal year as the situation warrants, nor to limit his ability to fund those staffs correctly?

> Casar: Yes, those funds we know will transform over the course of the year. It's not our intent to have that limitation. For example, we've put the entirety of the overtime, remaining overtime into the reimagine fund. And the goal would be over the course of the year for us to reduce police overtime as much

[4:21:59 PM]

as possible by looking at false burglar alarms or by looking at how we handle protests. So we would be hopefully shrinking that police overtime over the course of the year. But of course, between here and when we actually get to some of those answers, you know, that fund can be used, and it can be used according to the needs as you've described.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Colleagues, I ask that question because there was a question that came up in staff, and they wanted to check that issue. So that's now handled. Further conversation on the main motion, which is this budget? Councilmember tovo?

>> Tovo: Thank you, mayor. I have a couple of quick questions regarding community partnerships, which is listed under the decouple fund, and how it relates to the explorers listed under the reimagine safety fund.

[4:22:59 PM]

As I understand community partnerships include some civilian staff who work on the community liaison, line I assume that's Santa and role model days and some of the other days that fall under the community liaison role. Does community partnerships also include explorers and the police athletic league? I'm not sure, I guess that's a question maybe councilmember Casar for you, or for our staff, just to verify what else is included within community partnerships that we would be asking to be removed from the police department.

>> Casar: My understanding of the answer there is yes. And that the goal is to try to pull -- as we look at this, to try to pull the civilian functions, to decouple civilian functions as we can, while we try to reimagine the components.

>> Tovo: But community partnerships as listed here would seem to include the two

[4:24:00 PM]

programs that involve sworn officers? Is that correct?

>> Casar: Exactly. And that's why we had it kind of spread across those two, across those two units. If the staff have to come and give us tighter numbers on that, we can. But the idea was to generally decouple some of the civilian components, understanding that we need to reimagine the sworn components of it.

>> Tovo: Okay. So does the 2.51 million under community partnerships include the explorers at 2.79, is that a duplicate?

>> Casar: That's correct.

>> Tovo: I think probably that correction should be made for clarity.

>> Casar: Maybe over the course of the dinner break, if the staff come back and give us the best numbers, that would be great.

>> Tovo: And so I -- because

[4:25:02 PM]

these are separated out, is your intention then to have additional conversation about the community partnerships with regard to the sworn officers? Or is it -- or are we providing today the direction that we want those programs removed from the police department?

>> Casar: On the decoupling end, I think we want to provide those community programs and the civilianized functions being pulled out of police, is the general intent, and then the sworn component that you're mentioning is in the reimagine bucket, so that's in the task force and council's work over the course of the year. That's the intent.

>> Tovo: It was my understanding the police athletic league, though, consists of sworn officers as well? So should that not be in the second one? Or is it your intent -- I'm not trying to belabor the point, I'm just trying to understand. Because they're in both places, and E includes sworn officers. I think that needs some sorting

[4:26:05 PM]

out. To make it really clear what the intent is of the council.

>> Casar: I think we want the civilian component and decouple section and sworn component in the reimagine.

>> Tovo: Okay. That makes sense to me. I think there would be a conversation if the sworn component is not going to be a part of some of those programs, we might want to make different investments in these programs all together. Okay. So you're going to take a look at that and --

>> Casar: Yeah, when the staff comes back with the precise numbers there. Because this was the best numbers we had as the parts were moving very quickly.

>> And councilmember, they're working on that. We'll have it after the break.

>> Tovo: Great. If there are other programs in community partnership, that I haven't named, it would be good to know what those are. And if you could just verify my understanding of what the community san, are the staff that do what I described, the blue Santa and role model days.

[4:27:07 PM]

It's been a long time and I'm not sure we've had that conversation as part of this council, but what is contained within those functions. I just want to be really clear what is within that program line. Thank you.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Thank you. Further discussion on the base motion? Councilmember alter?

>> Alter: Thank you. Councilmember tovo, I believe that there's a question number 74 in the q&a that looks a little bit more into the community partnerships, which might answer some of your questions. On that piece. I have a couple sort of small questions about some of the things in the base motion that I haven't had an opportunity to ask some of the co-sponsors and I want to make sure that I'm fully understanding how we're handling rms system. Let me start with rms systems.

[4:28:08 PM]

As I understand it, it was originally proposed \$2.8 million coming out of that 11 whatever pot of money that came out

(indiscernible) That we did on item 96. That is now proposed to fall by \$1 million. But we are saying that we should still be able to move forward with the rms system and the additional money if needed will be found. Is that correct on that piece? Mr. Casar? From how your motion works?

>> Casar: That's right. I think probably the manager or somebody on the staff side could speak to that. But that was the understanding, that you can keep this moving forward. \$1 million less, and then we would just have to find a way to make up that gap as we get closer to purchase. But I'm happy to have the staff confirm that.

>> We're moving our deputy city manager over, but that was our

[4:29:10 PM]

understanding as well.

>> Tovo: So then harper-madison, your number 5 then, I think there's a lot of really good questions in there. I just want to make sure I'm understanding how the pieces fit together. I think we have a broad agreement that the data matters, and if we're going to make sure that we're allocating the right resources to the right place that we need to have improved, I would love to hear a little bit more to make sure I'm understanding what your amendment is, and how that rolls out within the structure of the city. Is it a contract out, or is it the office of innovation is doing it, how is that planned?

>> Councilmember alter, I am so sorry, but there is literally somebody at my door right now. I'm going to run real quick and I'll be right back. I'm so sorry.

>> Kitchen: Mayor, I have a question related to the language

[4:30:13 PM]

in that. Maybe I should wait until she comes back. I have some language that overlaps with councilmember harper-madison, so I wanted to speak to that language, too. But I'm happy to wait until she gets back.

>> Mayor Adler: Why don't you hold off then so she can hear. Is there someone working on this issue?

>> For the contract with the innovation office?

>> Mayor Adler: With the handling of that software.

>> Cronk: With the rms software, our deputy city manager is ready to answer that.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay.

>> So gfr Yan anorexia, councilmembers, mayor, city manager. I'll say that generally we have spoken to our ctm department, and I know they've had conversations with me as well. We believe we can certainly get started on the records management system. We are going to be looping our innovation team as well, and looking for ways to accelerate that work. We will also as we look for the

[4:31:16 PM]

functionality and revisit that demo and those conversations happened a year ago as we were preparing to move forward with records management, and we will try to see, a, what efficiencies we can find, but certainly we will continue throughout the course of the reimagining conversation, look for other one-time savings to supplement as we move forward. Because we want to be thorough about the kind of functionality we need, the current system is about 15 years old. It is a legacy system that no longer functions and we want to make sure that we have the ability to leave a system in place that not only does our data analysis, but really does all the intricate services -- or services all the intricacies that they need.

>> Mayor Adler: Deputy manager, it's really good to be pursuing that as we reimagine public safety, as we start bringing on investments outside of police that are designed to address

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public safety, and it could have an impact on forcing levels. We really need good data. One of the frustrating things we've had over the last several years that with our existing systems, it's really hard to get good timely data that would help with these kinds of analysis. Certainly the work we're going through. So I appreciate expediting that. Further discussion? Councilmember kitchen, we'll go back to you. Wait, hang on a second. Wait, wait. Councilmember alter?

>> Alter: I just had a question to miss harper-madison when she had to go answer the door about understanding harper-madison 5, which I don't think

(indiscernible) Addressed.

[Background noise]

>> I'm having a hard time. Councilmember alter, is this the

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innovation office, the solutions item?

>> Alter: I just want to make sure I'm understanding, I think the questions are really good, I just want to understand if it interfaces with the rms, and how this is functioning as if it's a contract, or if it's something the innovation office is doing in-house.

>> There's something happening in the background that I'm really having a hard time hearing.

>> Mayor Adler: Deputy manager, can you mute, please?

>> I'm sorry, can you say that one more time?

>> Alter: Sure. My broad concern is making sure we're adjusting the data needs we have as we embark on this process. There are a lot of moving parts. One piece was the rms system, which I think we have a game plan for. I'm trying to understand where your amendment fits in with that. And how that's being organized to roll out in terms of if it's a contract that the office of innovation is outsourcing, or

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doing it in-house, or what -- I wasn't sure of the -- I'm a little concerned if we do too much outsourcing with it, it will take too long, and I want to better understand what the specifics were that you were proposing.

>> Harper-madison: I got it. I understand that now. Because it is a contract, I think a part of that is intended for it to be able to be nimble. So I absolutely understand your concern about the addition of any time to, you know, doing what we want to do with these revolutionary transformative changes. So the contract, I think, will address that. I have similar concerns as you do about the records management

system. And I thought it was of the utmost importance that that came back. I don't know that these speak to one another, so forgive me if I'm not entirely answering your question, because I don't know that I understand it. So the intent here, the rationale here is really just addressing, you know, how new police technologies can make --

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based on disparities worse, frankly, and inequities in policing, they can transfer inequities to somewhere else in policing. They really do exacerbate inequitable policing, and oversight in equity of policing. This is our opportunity to have the technology that our department deploys be effective and be one more way, you know, to address racism, and policing. And so this \$100,000 to the innovation office will be for them to staff a contract expert, just to monitor that data and help us wrap our heads around what the data means, provide more recommendations on best practices, moving forward. Hopefully that helps.

>> Alter: That helps a lot. I was getting confused between the technology and the data, and trying to apply that. But that does then raise a question for the deputy city manager which is, how are you incorporating the work that the

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innovation office started with its analysis of the calls into -- working with the rms feed, or the rms system, because they were -- there was the rms part, and I'm sorry, I'm getting my acronyms wrong here, there are too many, there was the rms part, and the cad part. What is our plan for integrating that, and how do those pieces fit together? And thank you for that clarification, councilmember harper-madison, on the technology.

>> I appreciate that, councilmember. To be fair, so we actually think of them as moving in tandem, right? And so as we were thinking about what is the architecture, what is the infrastructure, the hardware and the software that we need to make sure that these systems communicate with each other, there is also a thought about, what are the features and what are the specifications that they need in order to make our work and our data analysis

[4:37:23 PM]

smoother. But to councilmember harper-madison's comment, too, there is a lot of technology thought, and how do we imbue it in the technology space and creating a technology road map that really follows our journey as we do some of that reimagining. And so Carey, as part of the team, will be working to really think through what that is, and will be coupled with some of the conversations that we're having with the rms. So while they feel like they are two separate bodies of work, they really are intended to

work in tandem so that one can inform the other. And we believe that it will actually end up with a product that not only services our data analysis needs, but will actually help inform future technologies in the future.

>> Alter: Thank you.

[4:38:26 PM]

>> Mayor Adler: Councilmember kitchen.

>> Kitchen: Yes. I think we're all on the same page here. Deputy city manager, I just want to point you to the direction that -- that's in councilmember Casar's number 1, that I asked him to include. I think it overlaps what we're saying here. There are two points in it that I just want to bring to your attention as you go through this work. It sounds to me like you're working with the innovation office which is one of the things that I had suggested. But I also wanted to point to two things, and I think you may have said this, but one of the really critical needs that we have from our data is at the end of the day, we're going to really need to understand, what is the appropriate level of staffing for reimagined police department after we go through the changes that we're talking about? And that involves the kind of -- when there are as many aspects of that, including digging into the call center data, as was

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demonstrated to us at the last public safety committee meeting. So I wanted to highlight that aspect of it, to be sure, and I'm hoping that as part of addressing -- going through this process, that you look at that. What data elements do we need and what analytical process do we need and do we have the technology that will allow us to capture that data in order to get to a point where we can actually with some level of confidence have some understanding of what we need in terms of staffing. And then the second point was, data privacy is something that will be important to consider as you go through this process. We've heard from folks that have raised concerns about how surveillance is carried out. And while there's a really important need for the ability

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to share data, I think of that more in terms of supporting our health care needs, supporting -- sharing data across community health care medics, for example, with mental health. We have to really look at data privacy. And then there are other issues related to surveillance. So I would ask that, as you work through this process, at the appropriate time, in one of your reports back to us, that you come back and let us know what we're looking for in terms of the specifications for these systems and what we expect these systems to be able to do for us in terms of the information we're trying to analyze, and the results

we're trying to achieve, so that we can see an alignment between the specifications of the systems, the data we're collecting and what we want it to tell us. So I would just ask if you could do that.

>> We will absolutely

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incorporate that into our conversations. I think that is part of the work that we're asking the innovation team to do. We will also be using the privacy person and their team as well. This will be a multi-layered effect. I'll just say two things on your request. Certainly we have thought about staffing. We're pushing that off for a moment as we believe as we think collectively as a community how to right size a police department of the future, then we'll have to really then rethink, what does that staffing component look like once we've done some of this reimagining, and we want to be thoughtful about that. Also, there have been a lot of conversations about privacy concerns. And some of that relates to hipaa and health concerns. Some of that, whether it's license plate readers, or some of the parking readers information, that has been a national conversation and we want to make sure that we lean into that as well. So that work will be ongoing and

[4:42:31 PM]

we'll be sure to bring that forward to this council body as we progress.

>> Mayor Adler: Thank you. Further discussion on the base budget? Councilmember alter?

>> Alter: Thank you. I wanted to clarify for the commodities and contractuals, we had a budget question that was responded to from mayor Adler 155. That suggested that our staff had found a way to fund about \$3 million worth by a debt, it looks like, instead of there which reduces that pot. So this would still need to be in there, reducing it from the

[4:43:33 PM]

manager's budget. But that almost 3 million of it is taken care of by those radios? I'm wondering if we're randomly cutting things or assigning that, for that bucket? I wanted to better understand that.

>> I can respond to that, councilmember. That would be staff's recommendation. We identified that budget question 155, it gave you a more granular breakout of what is in the police department's contractuals and commodity budget as we were doing that work. We identified that the hand-held radios could be an option for debt financing which moves them out of our operating budget and into our capital budget to be funded through contractual obligations. So that would be our recommendation, if

council moves forward with directing a reduction to the police department's contractals and commodities budget of roughly \$3 million. We would recommend that we move

[4:44:35 PM]

those radio purchases out of the operating budget into purchasing debt, which is something the law department confirms we're able to do.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay.

>> Alter: So is that clarified then, that that's where the bulk of that's coming from? Is there any question on that? Okay. Great. And then I had some questions on some of the other amendments that were in the reinvestment, if other folks don't have questions on the Casar 1, 2 and 3.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. I would point out some of the questions that I had on this, and I think were shared by councilmember alter and tovo and councilmember harper-madison, we addressed as a budget rider, number one. That's been distributed to everybody and posted. And also we'll be handling those questions then.

[4:45:41 PM]

Councilmember alter, floor is still yours.

>> Alter: Okay, thank you. So I wanted to appreciate all the work that mayor pro tem Garza has done on food access over the years. And I appreciate the need for the program. I just wanted to clarify, it seems like this is being contracted out to

(indiscernible), but as I thought, there were ftes that were being put into the budget amendment. And I was just getting a little confused over whether it was a separate program, or a program within public health and how we were working that. So if you could just help me understand that. I thought the detail was for the equi dot program that we were contracting out to, but I thought that I had seen some ftes and stuff, which we don't need if it's contracted out. So I would appreciate clarification.

>> I'm trying to pull up my notes on it.

[4:46:44 PM]

>> Alter: There is a program specialist and bus driver, but I didn't know if the city was hiring them or equidot was hiring them

>> I believe that is the cost to equidot to hire a program specialist and fte. They're not intended to be city employees.

>> Alter: Okay. So then I guess you just make any adjustments if they need to be made then?

>> Yes, we can do that.

>> Alter: Okay, thank you. And the other question I had, and I have a bunch of different questions. I'm trying to get through the ones that I can quickly look at here. And the message board is an imperfect tool for this communication, so I appreciate the ability to ask these. For your -- so there is the amendment in here for the abortion access fund, which I

[4:47:45 PM]

support. I know your budget rider's not in this group. But I did want to get clarification, because it was talking about how that money was being spent, and it says that it's for Austin and Travis county residents. Does that mean that if you are Travis county but not an Austin resident, that you're eligible? Or just seems like those funds are kind of scarce. So I would just like that for when we talk about it later, or if you want to answer it now.

>> Mayor Adler: Who are you directing that to?

>> Alter: Mayor pro tem Garza.

>> Garza: I'm sorry, somebody was asking for strawberries.

>> Alter: So the base motion includes the funding, the

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additional funding for abortion access, which I support. There is a budget rider that relates to how that money is specifically being spent. And it says that the services should be available to clients who are Austin or Travis county residents. And I just wasn't sure if it was our practice to be spending money on non-austin residents, and wanted to get some clarification on that.

>> Garza: My understanding of our public health is that most of their contracts are for Travis county residents. But if there's somebody on -- if there's a staff person for public health that could answer that, of course, please answer that.

>> I believe we have Stephanie Hayden on the line.

>> Yeah, she's just being moved over to the panelist section.

>> Alter: Thank you.

>> Director of Austin public health.

[4:49:47 PM]

We do use that definition, especially when we're working with homelessness, victims of violence, and, you know, other populations. Because we go by our eligibility practice.

>> Alter: Thank you for the clarification. I appreciate that. And then one other item that I wanted to flag is I really appreciate the work that councilmember harper-madison did in bringing forward the workforce program. I think make it pay, I'm not sure of what the name of it is. And I want to be added as a co-sponsor. We've been working closely together in the workforce solution. I think it's really important that we make the additional investments in the workforce developments.

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I'll put that on the message board as well. I'm working on a very simple budget rider because I don't know how to do it other than the way we're doing it, which is asking the city manager to work with the county to fund the balance, because I think it's a \$2 million program, and we tend to do our workforce programs jointly and I would really like to see the county help us with that seed money to get that program started. And I should have all that during the break. But wasn't able to get it all done while we were listening to testimony. So councilmember harper-madison, would that be amenable to you?

>> Harper-madison: Absolutely. Both things. Thanks for joining as a co-sponsor, and the consideration around the county. I have to say, though, I think there's some movement already happening there, so I don't want you to have to do any work unnecessarily. So let me check in again and see where that all landed and I'll let you know what that's looking like. Because you may not have to do

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that. It might already be happening.

>> Alter: I know they've been talking with them and I guess my direction is really to the city manager to work with the county to facilitate the funding.

>> Harper-madison: Okay.

>> Alter: It's not -- I mean, it's more that we really, if we're going to be funding that much, we really should be funding the whole 2 million. And I believe the county has a role to work with us on advancing these workforce development staff. It's a way of us saying to the county, we want you to partner with us.

>> Harper-madison: I agree. I do think it's a shared responsibility. I think it's also a shared commitment. I haven't felt anything less than an absolute commitment from them to be partners in the initiative. So yes, I consider that friendly.

>> Alter: Thanks.

>> Mayor Adler: In fact, with respect to -- just to be -- I could also co-sponsor your -- councilmember harper-madison, I'm one of the strongest advocates of this, is

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commissioner Travillion, who is out trying to get us to participate in this program. So we're counting on him to do his work there as well. And I think you can scale this program up beyond the \$2 million point. And I hope that with the city doing this, and with the county coming in, we have even greater capacity at that. Councilmember pool.

>> Pool: I'd also like to be listed as a co-sponsor on that one. And I would like to add a bit of direction to our legislative affairs group to let us know what we, and potentially the county, our partners in the workforce solutions can encourage the state to put more funds into workforce development. The program comes from the state, and works in the various counties across the state, and I think that the state of Texas could do more.

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And in fact, they will need to do more given covid-19. So if we could add a little bit of direction on that, city manager, that would be great.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Colleagues, it is about 7 minutes before 5:00. I would propose that we take just a second. And there's one more person who showed up to speak at palmer. Let's recognize that speaker. Then we'll come back to us to see if there's further discussion on the monetary issues, before we would take a break for dinner. Councilmember harper-madison and then -- you're muted, councilmember harper-madison.

>> Harper-madison: I'm trying to do your job for you unnecessarily. I was just going to point out that councilmember Renteria had his hand raised before removed on.

>> Renteria: Yes, I want to be

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shown as a sponsor. I just got off the phone at lunch with the commissioner, and he said that definitely that they want to be a partner -- in partnership with us. So this is something really great. And I'm really just really, really glad that we're going to be working with our county commissioners.

>> Mayor Adler: Great to hear. Myrna, do you want to call the last speaker at palmer, and then we'll close the public hearing aspect of this meeting?

>> Sure. Jill Ann Mccafferty.

>> Hi. That's me. I'm Jill Ann Mccafferty, and I've only got a minute to talk. First off, I want to say thank you very much to Jimmy Flannigan when you were tagging my post about what happens on Sunday. And I do very much appreciate you, sir. So I was arrested for Jay walking. I went through the whole process of being arrested at APD, and then the jail for a charge of

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Jay walking. I personally feel like that fine does not even cover the wasted resources for arresting me. Now, the second part of what I want to say is the fact that every time I go out, I go out with the prefaces of de-escalating. I know Rodriguez for over 10 years. And my main goal was to try and have open dialogue between my protest leaders and the wtfers. Steady got arrested for Jay walking. How is this not a problem? Then there's also the fact that in the paddy wagon that me and the girl that interfered in my arrest [buzzer sounds] Concluded the bar would not come down.

[Buzzer sounds] I was told budget cuts. Do you know how dangerous that is, to have the bars come down with my hands tied behind my back?

>> Speaker, your time has expired.

>> Mayor Adler: Thank you for participating. Colleagues, without objection, we're going to close the public

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testimony part of our meeting. Without objection, that's done. As we go into dinner, I just want to say quickly that I really appreciate all the work that's been done over time to get to the place where we're going through this budget. I know that it's been a real significant issue in the community with great community participation. We're in the search here, I think, collectively for finding what the right balance is with respect to sworn officers, and preventive care, and figuring out how to get the best people in the right place. This is not something that's about vilifying or attacking police officers, and I just want to make that real clear. You know, this is unfortunate that in this area, with policing, almost seems sometimes as if all police officers are degraded by the conduct of some police officers, but I really

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like the tenor and the common effort, the words that we heard today from folks on different sides of this issue all join. I appreciate the process we're about to go through. The new direction, I think it's exciting, and a chance to try to make the city safer, and I'm encouraged that everybody seems ready to put their shoulder to this to help make sure that we do that. And I thank the criminal justice advocates, and I thank the police officers that are involved in this as well. Before we take a break, does anybody want to say anything on that? Councilmember Flannigan?

>> Flannigan:

>> Flannigan: Thank you, mayor. I wanted to reiterate that this is a lot of work that we've all been doing. I don't know that the public always understands what it means to be a co-sponsor and what it means to do work on the message board and all public safety meetings that we've all been attending. And I'm so grateful that

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we've been able to do that. That really led to the point where we are today. I think hammering out the final details and clarifying any remaining questions. This has really been a co-created process for all of us so I'm really glad to see that that's where we're heading today. I want to add that, you know, I don't think anybody is trying to vilify the work of anyone. I certainly have Dr's from the department in my district that I talk to a O a regular basis who seem to be doing really amazing work and I can imagine -- frankly, I can only imagine that -- that's not true. This happens in the lbgtq community as well. I can imagine that it would be disheartening to feel that the behavior of a few people of your group, that that behavior reflects badly on you because I have certainly heard the same happen to lbgtq people and definitely hearing it from leaders in the poc and bipoc

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communities. So I would hope that would create a little bit of empathy because I know that one of those groups is feeling physically threatened and the other is just worried about a budget. So I'm excited to get through this budget process, mayor and excited we're on the same page.

>> Mayor Adler: Councilmember Casar.

>> Casar: Thanks, mayor and thanks, councilmember Flannigan. There's been unprecedented community outcry and protests to bring us to this moment and reckoning with a broken system. And mayor, I think what I want to clarify and I think what you were trying to get out there is despite all the hurt and despite all our history, of the thousands of people who have called into these council meetings,

people aren't calling for vengeance, people are calling for change. People are calling for safety of other people, even if they've endured really

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unjust things. People are talking about making things better for everyone. And I think has chair Flannigan points out N the public safety committees we've been in where there have been academics, experts, police officers, community members, while there's been disagreements, I think at the heart of it people are talking about how do we keep people safe and that's what the council has prioritized. So I think it would be a miss characterization if anybody said our intent was anything other than how do we create a more just and safe community. You can see that with the amendments that everybody has incorporated into the base motion of councilmember harper-madison focusing on reentry programs and public health. Councilmember Garza is focused on getting people food. Councilmember Renteria and tovo pushing us all together to end homelessness. Councilmember pool championing a mental health response. Councilmember Ellis on

[5:02:00 PM]

violence prevention, your work on the workforce development issue, mayor, so on the other side of the pandemic we are indeed better off, plus all of the other stuff that is in this budget. I think the only way to characterize it is that we are listening to the community, we're trying to make a bold first step towards change and that we're focused on people's safety. So obviously we have a long way to go and we have this reimagining public safety fund that we have to keep on working on throughout the year because this is just one big transformative step but we have lots more to go. I think unfortunately we will have to be doing that work, potentially while the work of the council is mischaracterized, but I know that what I keep hearing from all kinds of community members is they just want things to be better and I want to be part of its group that is really focused on that task on the right side of this issue, on being thoughtful and deliberative,

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but sometimes being uncomfortable and doing more than we've ever done before because we cannot change the status quo. We cannot get to safety and justice if we keep making very small changes. And this is a significant step and so I just appreciate the way we've all worked together on this and what it is we're going to be able to get done tonight.

>> Mayor Adler: Councilmember alter.

>> Alter: Thank you. I just wanted to make a comment on some of the ems for alter 2 and 2472, and just ask the city manager for his help and his staff's help. So the ems amendments, there's several of them, but the one that I originally put forward as well as the 2472, are not just about responding to reimagining public safety. They are also in response to

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the pandemic and what we need to be doing in response to the pandemic and making sure that our ems have the resources that they need. The 2472 is a switch in schedule that we would be moving towards a year earlier than what's in the contract. And the reason to move this up has everything to do with covid. And it cuts down on the shift changes which helps with the time that's lost with decontamination. It keeps folks safer. It helps us to staff ems more effectively, more efficiently and more economically when we have folks who may be out for covid or quarantine, etcetera. And my hope when we initially put this forward is that we might be able to get some FEMA funding and/or if there's additional cares money. And I just want to establish yes, we are doing the budget, but these are very

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much a reaction to a need for covid. And I just -- I don't know all the intricacies of those steps, but 24/72 we are not supposed to do that until fiscal year '22 and we're moving that up specifically for covid and some of these other steps are -- we are growing, but these resources are that much more important. So how do we try to free up other resources by bringing that down? And if you can just explain how that works or assure me that you will take those steps with respect to items where we can do that. Same with the workforce development, depending on what happens with funding coming down.

>> Cronk: Thank you, councilmember. When I presented the proposed budget I mentioned that this was a snapshot in time and that we would have to be coming back and making adjustments because of not only the pandemic, but our desire to really reimagine public safety. And so I would put that in that category of knowing that we have to continue to

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work with staff, continue to see what needs our community has and make adjustments as we go along. But in these areas in particular I couldn't agree with you more that that would be something we will have to lean into to make sure that we can see that we're responding in an appropriate way with the health needs that our community faces.

>> Alter: I think that's my concern. I think we're all in agreement on doing that part. I just wanted to make sure that they would be highlighted as you're going through whatever process you're going

through as approaching FEMA and on approaching any other dollars that are available, that these are understood as covid responses so that we can access any other resources that would help us extent our ability to help our community.

>> Absolutely.

>> Thank you.

>> Mayor Adler: Colleagues?

>> Cronk: May I suggest when we come back from the break I'm going to turn it over to our deputy cfo to just review the base motion

[5:07:06 PM]

to make sure that we have it reflected the way that it's intended, including the dollar amounts. And so if that's okay with you that's how we'll start when we get back from break, mayor.

>> Mayor Adler: That sounds good. And as we have all the time, nothing is precluded, nothing is cut off. We can always bring up things. Mayor pro tem?

>> Garza: Sorry. I just wanted to address the broad comments that are made earlier because it's just killing me that most of the dudes spoke and none of the women said anything. But I just -- I wanted to say that, you know, for me -- we can all speak for each other -- for ourselves personally, but I do believe that there has been someville phiing and I understand it. For me it's been vilifying of the system, of a system that we allowed everybody, everybody was a player in

[5:08:08 PM]

this allowed to happen. And it created a system that we put police officers in to go P positions or tasks -- in positions or tasks that we didn't equip them to address and we have communities, our black and brown communities, who have a different life experience when they are confronted by the police. And they are rightfully angry about the system and I'm really proud of this council for recognizing the anger and realizing its existence and its necessity for us to move to a better tomorrow. And this has been hard, but I think we all truly, no matter where you are on this, we all want a safer Austin and a better Austin because we have to admit that people don't have the

[5:09:09 PM]

same experiences in the city and in this country, and those are the things that we're trying to address here. Thanks.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Before we take a break, when we come back we'll do that first kind of true-up where we are, see if there's any immediate other changes to the monetary issues. Then we're going to get into budget riders. Legal has asked us on budget rider number one to take a look at that six-month period, make sure we could come up with a way to describe that that works legally. That raised questions so we've been looking at that. Just by way of notice, mayor pro tem, you've identified a vendor for one of the programs that I really like and have personal relationships with the people who are doing that. And I'll ask questions about whether we should designate a vendor in the rider. Councilmember Flannigan, on yours you have the -- looking in the different departments I'll want to talk to you about what it

[5:10:09 PM]

means to actually authorize the creation of after department because I thought it was just being studied and then coming back to us. I'm going to raise that question as well. And I'm just doing this because there's not a way for me to give you a head's up easily before otherwise. All right. With that, councilmember kitchen?

>> Kitchen: Just a question. Is there a particular order you want to take the budget riders in? Or just how do you want to organize? I don't have a preference, just so that we can understand how we should go through them.

>> Mayor Adler: I was just doing it by person. I was going to take up harper-madison's budget riders, councilmember Garza's, councilmember casars, councilmember kitchen's, councilmember Flannigan --

>> Kitchen: Okay.

>> Mayor Adler: Councilmember alter.

>> Alter: So I'm going to be posting to the message board some additional language for consideration for harper-madison's budget

[5:11:09 PM]

rider one to just clarify some stuff about timing with respect to the legislative session, and when that advice needs to come back so that we are able to act on things accordingly as well as some suggestions with respect to leadership training and promotions. And then I will be posting the updated version of the office of the chief medical officer and I'm wondering, mayor, if it makes sense to take up that item and the golf fees before we do the budget riders because those are more budget related.

>> Mayor Adler: Let's take those up afterwards because that's how I had already announced the order. The budget items, riders and then the two fee items at the end.

>> Alter: Okay.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. And people making changes to harper-madison budget rider number one, make sure you see the amendment to that that councilmember harper-madison, myself, alter and tovo have now of the posted and it's been distributed. Councilmember Casar.

[5:12:10 PM]

And then councilmember pool.

>> Casar: Mayor, I don't know if what you said, but just to save us time, on the budget riders, what if we listed them and then had people pull essentially from consent the budget righters so we wouldn't have to move all of them.

>> Mayor Adler: That's a really good idea. We'll do that. As we get into the riders, anybody can pull any one of the riders they want to to speak on. That doesn't preclude anybody's ability to be able to speak on any rider they want to speak on. Councilmember kitchen?

>> Kitchen: That's all right. I think it's really important that we at least touch on these riders. We don't have to spend a lot of time, but we're going through this pretty fast. The public probably doesn't understand what we're doing. A lot of people it's really hard for them to follow. So I guess we can handle that. What you might do is like what you suggested, mayor, is allow each person and just go through people and they can speak to the ones that they think are

[5:13:10 PM]

important for the public to

>> Mayor Adler: We're not going to cut off anybody's ability to speak to anything they want to. We'll make sure that opportunity exists, councilmember kitchen. Councilmember pool.

>> Pool: Two things quick. To what Greg was saying about the enumerated amendments, you're talking about the ones that haven't been included in Casar base motion, right? Those are the ones that we will discuss. And then also potentially pull those that have already been included

[indiscernible].

>> Mayor Adler: We have the ones that are already put into the base motion. If somebody wants to make further amendments to the monetary things, we'll do that when we come back. If people want to do that. When we're done with all the monetary stuff we'll get to the riders. When we're done with that we'll get to the fees.

>> Pool: My point there is those money amendments that are not part of the base motion. Because there are a few.

>> Mayor Adler: Correct.

[5:14:10 PM]

People can pull those. We can take a vote on those.

>> Pool: I think that's what Greg was suggesting that we do was the ones -- because we already have a whole bunch of them included in the base motion. And the ones that are not included in the base motion we have not talked about. We are going to offer them for consideration to be included in the base motion.

>> Mayor Adler: If somebody wants to make a motion to include any other amendments that will be the time to do it. An amendment that's not offered is just not offered. And the amendments that have been offered at this point have been accepted to this point and they are part of the base motion.

>> Pool: Good. And the second thing I had, last thing, those of us who have direction for the city manager, usually we make that -- those comments right before we take a vote. Is that going to be the same today?

>> Mayor Adler: Yes. After we go through the riders, after we go through the fee-related stuff, everyone will have a chance to speak to it and then we'll take our vote.

>> Pool: And direction.

>> Mayor Adler: You can

[5:15:10 PM]

give direction either that place or you can give that direction as part of a rider if you wanted to bring that as -- either way.

>> Pool: Okay.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Further discussion? All right. Then at 5:15 -- yes, councilmember tovo.

>> Tovo: Sorry. I wanted to call your attention to some edits I've proposed to councilmember Flannigan's budget rider regarding the APD headquarters. Councilmember Flannigan, those have been distributed and I believe they're also posted on the message board. I hope that you will consider those to be friendly amendments. And mayor, I just wanted to clarify what time we're coming back. I'm actually going to attend the sobering center meeting at 5:30, so if we're doing an hour -- I'm not sure I need to clarify whether we're coming back at six or an hour from when we break.

>> Mayor Adler: An hour from when we break. We'll come back at 6:15 to get started. Okay? And with that at 5:15 we're in recess until 6:15. See you guys then.

[6:19:51 PM]

>> Mayor Adler: We had talked about handling -- having the staff give us a presentation here first, tell us where we are, as a way to open up, and then we'll see if there are any monetary changes to the budget before we get to the riders. Manager?

>> Thank you, mayor and council. We're just going to walk through some of the outstanding questions that were posed before break, and then he'll show us spreadsheets that is tracking the proposed new base motion that we're contemplating right now. Ed?

>> Thank you, city manager. I'm sharing my screen. I think -- so there was just a few hiccups with us having the wrong presentation up this morning. I want to make sure there's no confusion. This slide that I showed you

[6:20:51 PM]

about adding positions of police oversight, that is correct. This shifting the position over did not change. Was this slide where we had the wrong item? I just want to make sure we're perfectly clear that with the five positions, we are transferring from the Austin police department to the communications and public information office. One will be to provide additional resources to support city-wide communication needs, and then there's four positions that will staff the newly created public safety communications program. So there was a glitch there. And down at the very bottom, you can now see the language to amend the budget pursuant to your direction on project connect. So were all of the staff amendments. Those were entered into the record by city council motion.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Will there any question? Any objection to this motion? Hearing none, those are all part of the base motion.

[6:21:52 PM]

>> Perfect.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay.

>> [Lapse in audio] A tracking spreadsheet that we are using to keep track of everything. Everything I've highlighted in yellow are things that came from councilmember Casar. That is the bulk of it. I wanted to spend some time looking at the numbers. The one-time figures, and ongoing figures and total. I'll go

down the list. We're proposing to cancel all three cadet classes in fiscal year '21 for a one-time savings of \$2.27 million, recurring savings of \$10.7 million. Also would reduce the police department's overtime budget by \$2.8 million. Eliminate the funding for the license plate readers by \$113,772.

[6:22:52 PM]

This is a reduction to the mounted patrol vacant positions. There are two vacant positions there. And this proposal would eliminate them for a savings of a \$113,000. Reduced funding for the records management syem, that is on councilmember Casar's sheet. That's the amount we need to balance. I spoke before the break with the ctm director and he assured me we could still make the record management system work and get it implemented. And without delaying the project. So that's what we proposed to use, increase that reduction slightly, not to impede the project implementation over time, but to get our general fund in balance with its required to be. The next item would be to reduce contractals and commodities by \$3,150,000. As was mentioned earlier on but

[6:23:56 PM]

councilmember alter, staff's recommendation would be to come back at a later date to issue contractual obligations to fund the replacement of hand-held radios that are currently part of that contractual and commodities budget with the police department. That would take care of about \$2,950,000 of this reduction, that could be handled through issuing those contractual obligations. In regards to the adds, you can see the sponsor numbers. The proposals related to implemented funding to [lapse in audio], 2,783,000 of ongoing

[lapse in audio]. The number I highlighted is a little bit different than what councilmember Casar had on his sheet. And that's because the way we look at it is, that that's going to be funded through the cip program. So I have a separate column for

[6:24:57 PM]

the cip, and the debt will be funded to account for it. There's no change relative to what councilmember Casar proposed on his sheet. Mental health response and chips, 371,218 there, and to add additional community health paramedics. \$450,000 one time and 1.4 million of recurring for violent prevention. That's alter 3 proposal. Funding for a family violence shelter, and protection, \$100,000, one time, \$2 million annual operating cost. Permanent support of housing and services, for \$6,500,000, that's Casar amendment number 5. Victim Ver viss would have an

[6:25:59 PM]

increase of \$80,000 one time, \$420,000 recurring cost. Substance use continual car from Casar number 6 [lapse in audio] One time, \$650,000 of recurring expenses. Food access, increase of 150, one time expense, \$250,000 ongoing. \$100,000 for abortion access. The Ellis proposal number 1 to provide an additional \$300,000 for parks and trails. Harper-madison item number 6 for family support programs and reentry programs of \$200,000 each for one time, and ongoing expenses. Funding for our host program for qualified mental health professional contract, ongoing cost of \$137,000. Funding in the public health

[6:27:01 PM]

department, ongoing funding in the yop going public health department for covid-19 response of \$550,000. Workforce first program proposed by councilmember pool for \$50,000 ongoing. Next item would be early childhood program coordinator, for ongoing cost of \$96,000. One-time funding of \$30,000 for mobility services officer study. 147,000 for the ems et 3, one-time expense. \$100,000 for the equity and police technology proposal from councilmember harp emadison. And workforce development. This item, 27 and 28 are kind of combined. It would be to reduce the funding that was put into the budget for repairs of the

[6:28:02 PM]

running track at the public safety training facility. And move that money to the parks department to provide facility improvements. So 27 and 28 net out to zero. The final budget amendment on councilmember Casar's motion sheet was to increase golf fees pursuant to a harper-madison proposal number 7, and to potentially increase funding for childcare at park facilities, which was pool number 3. I put down zeros for those numbers. Currently that budget amendment states to-be determined. There's not a dollar amount so we just entered it at zero dollars currently. And then finally there was a motion to add harper-madison number 1, juneteenth holiday for the general fund [lapse in audio] Cost of \$42,307. And you can see at the bottom

[6:29:02 PM]

line, right now we are balanced in our general fund as a result of us slightly increasing that savings that we think we can get out of the records management program this year. One thing I skipped over and I would mention over here, you can see for the food access item, councilmember alter correctly identified that we did not need those two ftes. So we would be removing those two positions from the Garza

proposal number 1 as part of your base motion. I think that summarizes where we are. I would be happy to answer any questions or take comments on that before we move on.

>> Mayor Adler: So that I understand, I don't think that the increased (indiscernible) is part of the base motion. Because we're handling that during fees. We haven't gotten to fees yet.

>> I think that's a fair statement. It's mentioned here on the Casar motion sheet as one of the budget amendments. But pool 3 --

>> Mayor Adler: We specifically said that that section was not

[6:30:02 PM]

part of the base motion.

>> That's right, when I read out the numbers, I didn't read off the sheet anymore, I read off of the list that did not include these.

>> Mayor Adler: But there's opportunity for people to move those now, if they want to. But the base motion we specifically said just stop with the financial issues that were shown in the investment section.

>> Okay. There's a budget side of this. So before you just move to the fees and say we're going to amend the golf sides, there was a budget side to the proposal that the general fund tax dollars freed up through the golf fees could be used for additional funding in parks. So that would need to be part of your budget amendment if you actually want to do that, if you want to increase the budget of the parks department.

>> Mayor Adler: Right. But it has not happened yet.

[6:31:03 PM]

It's not part of the base budget that we have. Certainly we can move that. But that's not part of what we have done thus far. We can certainly move that, but that's not part of our base budget yet. The Juneteenth holiday was. That was something an amendment that someone moved at the very beginning. So that was an add to the base budget. Everything else -- and the cut track funding to increase park funding was also something that was approved as part of the base budget. And the others we see there are in the cuts, or the reinvestments as shown on that page, not including the bottom right-hand corner box. Okay? Does that make sense?

>> Yes. These reimagine funds were also part of the base.

>> Mayor Adler: Correct.

[6:32:04 PM]

Correct. Okay? All right. So now we're going to --

>> Kitchen: Mayor, I have questions.

>> Mayor Adler: One second. Councilmember Casar, did you have your hand raised?

>> Casar: I did. Ed, I know that there might be debt missing because there was parks debt in the Ellis, and that line might have been more.

>> Councilmember, will you mute, please?

>> Mayor Adler: Thank you. Start again, Greg, I'm sorry.

>> Casar: So on your spreadsheet, the other screen you were on, Ed, with the whole list, that you created

>> Yep. I understand what you said.

>> Casar: So people can see what I'm talking about, yeah. I just don't want it to be lost

[6:33:05 PM]

that there is debt on some of those others with asterisks as part of the base budget.

>> Correct.

>> Casar: And that's okay. I just want to make sure we don't undo something we did.

>> Yes. There is debt associated with the family protection. I don't want to undo anything you did either.

>> Casar: I think with parks as well. And I don't know if there's some association with the health response, that also has asterisks. Which I think probably indicates a debt.

>> We can double-check with that and make sure our tracking sheet is clear.

>> Casar: Thank you.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Councilmember kitchen?

>> Kitchen: I just want to make sure that on the item related

[6:34:06 PM]

to -- you have it listed as permanent supportive housing and services. I just want to make it clear that the budget rider allows that it could possibly be rapid rehousing. So I don't want -- I don't want this to

get carried forward thinking that it has to be psh. What we have in the budget rider is it says, this budget proposal funds 6.5 million in permanent supportive housing and services, and/or other services such as rapid rehousing required by the homelessness investment and expansion plan. That just allows for the fact that, you know, given the way funding works for these different programs, it may be that the money goes in -- some of it might go into rapid rehousing, some of it might go into permanent rehousing. That is in councilmember Casar's amendment. So it's written into the

[6:35:07 PM]

amendment, and I just wanted to bring that to your attention.

>> I think that's fair. We're putting this together to try to track the dollars, and to make sure our bottom line is balanced. But you're absolutely correct, councilmember, that these individual items that we have listed in column B, they do have additional details and we're not going to lose any of that additional detail.

>> Kitchen: Okay. Thank you.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Ed, thank you. You can take down that screen. So we're zeroing out right now. We're going to continue, if anybody else has any other things they want to offer on monetary issues before we get to riders.

>> Mayor?

>> Mayor Adler: Yes

>> Just a quick question. Two quick questions. One is, councilmembers kitchen and Casar, you both brought resolutions related to investing in homelessness, so is so needed and I'm supportive. We did get some feedback asking

[6:36:09 PM]

us to be sure that we will be making those investments guided by the investing for results report. They're slightly different language in one of the budget amendments. So it's my understanding that those investments are being guided by that investing report, even though it's something slightly different in the budget amendments. And secondly, I wanted to --

>> Mayor Adler: Does anybody have any objection to that understanding? Hearing none, that is the understanding in that section.

>> Thank you. Then secondly, Ed, you were going to follow up, and I'm not sure if it's now or later, on the question of the different components that were part of the community partnerships.

>> Thank you for reminding me of that. We have chief Manley on the line and he's prepared to provide you that response.

>> Thanks very much.

[6:37:10 PM]

>> Can you hear me now?

>> Mayor Adler: We can, yes.

>> Great. So, yes, you were correct earlier in the components that make up our community partnerships on top of the pal and patrol program which have officers assigned to them. That also is the area where we do have our office of community liaison, and within that function we run many of the programs you discussed, not only the operation blue Santa, but all of our outreach efforts. We have liaisons that work with specific segments of Austin's community assigned to that division. The ocl also provides support to various commissions. I've got, I think nine of them listed here. I don't think you need me to read them but they provide support to the quality of life commissions. They run a summer youth leadership program where we bring in youth, particularly from some of the disadvantaged communities during the summer, who would have nothing else to do during the summer, and we run a summer camp for them, that

[6:38:11 PM]

teaches them self-esteem, leadership, teamwork, communication, amongst many other things. And then the department also does a lot of our outreach and a lot of our interpretation. They work with our seniors and other communities. So all of those functions also reside in that particular area, along with what you brought up being the pal and explore programs. The pal and explore are the only ones that have uniform commissioned officers assigned to them.

>> Thank you very much. And thank you, councilmember alter, you had a question where this was gone into in more detail. What wasn't in 74 is the detail about the amounts. And so I don't know, I think, Ed, you said you were going to follow up on that. I'm not sure if we have that. So what I was trying to determine, and I've suddenly

(indiscernible) -- What I was trying to determine was how much

[6:39:12 PM]

the explorers program is 2.79, and I wanted to confirm it is also contained in that full community partnership number up above. And if you had dollar figures attached to the other component programs that fall within community partnerships, and any indication of what dollar figure attached to the sworn officers as opposed to civilians. That may be more detail than we can get to today, but maybe it would be enough to have a general understanding of what it is we are poised to do today.

>> I can provide some information on that, some of the more detailed things might be difficult. But within the community partnerships budget of 2.5 million, there is 1.1 million for community outreach, 591,000 for category called community

[6:40:16 PM]

partnerships, 279,000 for the explorers program, 583,000 for the police activities league.

>> What was the last one for pal?

>> 584,000.

>> Okay. And chief Manley, you indicated that pal has sworn officers involved as well as the explorers program, the other programs that were described are primarily handled by civilians, is that correct?

>> That's correct, councilmember.

>> Super. Thank you both.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Does anybody else want to make any other monetary suggestions before we go to riders? Councilmember alter?

>> Alter: Thank you. I have a question on the base

[6:41:16 PM]

about Casar 6.

(Indiscernible). And I just wanted to better understand what this is funding, and how much we're getting for our money, and if you can give me a sense of if there was a reasoning behind your dollar amount (indiscernible) Getting with this, just to help me understand what we're accomplishing. I support putting more money into substance abuse, but I wanted to better understand what this amendment is intended to fund. And how it is intended to be structured on gathering. It would be contracts or extensions of contracts that would be let by aph.

>> Mayor, can I respond?

>> Mayor Adler: Yes, go ahead.

>> Casar: Yes, amongst many of the presentations to the public safety committee, this was one

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of them. We have a real shortage of harm reduction services in the community. So there was a general budget sent by groups that do this work, sent to us, instead of breaking it down really specifically obviously this would be a competitive contract. So instead of specifying exactly how many hours and how many counselors we would get, we figure we would put it together in a proposal and see how much nonprofits could bring. The idea would be to expand the hours of our drop-in centers, make sure that we have more mobile outreach clinics. Some of the folks who spoke up said we could get two or three more of these going with this much money. We really need this in both morning and evening hours. And then there's actually the proactive engagement with folks to be able to address the issues that they have before there's an actual substance abuse crisis.

[6:43:20 PM]

We get 911 calls and have challenges when people hit that point of crisis, and this would help address those issues well before we get to that point.

>> Thank you. I appreciate the clarification. I sat in on most of the public safety meetings, and heard a lot about harm reduction, and some of those needs. I just wanted to better understand what we intended for this amendment, and this money. So thank you for the clarification.

>> Mayor Adler: Councilmember pool. I'm sorry, councilmember pool is next. Kathy, unless you had something related to what we were just talking about.

>> Tovo: I do. As you know, we really have a shortage of treatment beds as well. And so councilmember Casar, is it your intent that this public health will consider kind of the range of the use within substance abuse as they move

[6:44:21 PM]

forward with determining what to do next with that allocation? We've lost some treatment beds as you know during this pandemic.

>> Casar: Absolutely. I think we've generally listed broad categories about drop-in centers and mobile outreach for the continual care, and that's why we didn't want to get so specific about specifically where or to two, so we can help the most people with the limited funds we have.

>> Would it include inpatient beds, and if not, would you be interested in including that? I want to make sure if that's a contemplated substance use --

>> Casar: (Indiscernible).

>> Tovo: We had a scarcity before, several of our inpatient facilities had to close.

>> Casar: I certainly saw that. Let me, as we handle some other stuff, let me circle on this, because I wouldn't want to be wiped up in a situation where the

[6:45:23 PM]

staff don't know whether \$1 million will actually get us this variety of things between the mobile outreach and inpatient stuff. Give me one second to check on that.

>> Tovo: Thanks.

>> Casar: Thank you

>> So I guess I'll pick up here, mayor, is that right?

>> Mayor Adler: Yes, councilmember pool.

>> Pool: Thanks. I want to direct everybody's attention to my amendment number 3, pool number 3. This was included in the base motion, and in trying to find some funds in order to -- this is the childcare expanded services, because of the needs in the community that -- because of covid, in districts 1, 2, 3 and 4, there were six rec centers that were targeted for expanded services to be offered to families. So this was in the run-up to today, tied to harper-madison

[6:46:25 PM]

amendment number 7, thinking that if we were able to increase golf fees, we would be able to reduce the amount of subsidy from the general fund, that it goes to the golf enterprise fund, and put that money toward the necessary and the important fund for childcare expansion. I want to talk about this outside of that frame, if I could. You'll see that we came in at a \$1.5 million for staffing, from a general fund on this originally. In the framework where it would be subsidized by an offset by the golf fees, it dropped to about \$750,000. Which would still provide temporary staffing to get us through the school year, in particular, to address covid related necessities for families. So what I wanted to do was to

[6:47:25 PM]

highlight this issue for everybody, ask our awesome staff if there is -- what our balance looks like, is there maybe \$750,000 there available that we could put toward expansion of childcare and virtual learning opportunities for the kiddos in districts 1, 2, 3 and 4? That could then also potentially be offset by additional federal funding that we may get, hopefully -- everybody's fingers are crossed on this one -- from additional federal funds for covid needs. So Ed, how are we looking with our balance?

>> We are balanced right now, based upon that spreadsheet that I just walked you all through. There's no additional dollars at this point. The base motion on the table is

[6:48:28 PM]

balanced.

>> Pool: So that means then that we could potentially dip into reserves for \$750,000, something like that, if we were to make that affirmative step, is that right? We could use our reserves fund, which we've done in the past, for needs that have exceeded what our budgeting totals were.

>> Well, your financial policies pertaining to reserves, I'm confident not to be used for recurring expenditures, and it would also put us below the 12%. Right now we're projecting to be exactly at the 12% --

>> Pool: I recognize this would put us below the 12%. But I'm not sure what the .000 percent would be for the \$1 million. I will also note that we did that, I think last year or the year before, and then we were able to replenish those funds

[6:49:28 PM]

fairly quickly to get us back up to the 12%. And in this instance, I am talking about -- I was talking about one-time funds, but if a requirement to use the reserves is that it be ongoing, then that --

>> If it's one-time funds, that would be appropriate use for reserves.

>> Pool: That's what we're talking about. And I'm tying it to covid. I would like this to be Teed up for -- to be dedicated against any additional funds we might get for covid. Meantime, just in order to provide the additional support for our families who are desperately in need of some assurances, because of the delayed starts for school, and just the fact that we talk about how childcare -- high-quality childcare and virtual learning is so important to us on this dais and in this community, I

[6:50:30 PM]

wanted to put forward my amendment 3. It looks like Kathy has her hand raised.

>> Mayor Adler: Councilmember tovo.

>> Tovo: Mayor, if I may ask our staff, I think this is an important need. And I would like to support it. I don't know if the staff has any other suggestions about where we might find funding. I know we have a question into the q&a that asks for a response about travel budgets. I think we'll realize some savings in those this year, because the police departments won't be doing those programs. So that might be a source of funding. I don't know if our staff, again, have any other suggestions for where we might find funding for this need,

[6:51:30 PM]

absent of dipping into the reserves. Another really important, and what I would regard as a critical -- another critical need are some of the recommendations that came to us from sustainable policy board, the recommendations about creating a regional food system, and equity framework and some of the other needs. It's clear we're moving into budget adoption without funding -- potentially without funding several critical needs. And I'm not sure I have a solution here on this slide, but I'm asking the staff if they are aware of any other ways of providing some level of funding for these -- for the need that councilmember pool mentioned. These two may be things that we could take up in our six-month process, once we have a better sense of -- once we have a better sense of where we are with regard to pandemic funding

[6:52:32 PM]

and sales tax revenue and other things.

>> Mayor Adler: The other place we could look at it, too, Kathy, councilmember tovo and pool, is ask staff to come back with how we're spending the C.A.R.E.S. Money in that framework. That would be another place to potentially take a look at when that reconciliation comes back

>> When is that happening? What's the timing on that?

>> I think we're going to provide you quarterly updates. So we should be having an update perhaps in September, yeah.

>> I don't want the childcare piece to linger too long. I recognize that there's the amount of time necessary to hire, but the goal was to provide the services to expand what's needed for this fall for the school district. I would be fine with that suggestion, mayor, if we have

[6:53:32 PM]

some -- if we could direct staff -- if we had some certainty about it. Again, I would say that this is a necessary program for our community, particularly on the east side where we find that our communities -- our most disproportionately are disaffected by covid. This specifically addresses their childcare and virtual learning needs. I think that's important enough for us to go ahead and find the money, recognizing that we can possibly, if we get additional funding through C.A.R.E.S., we can then assign it to that. We can charge it off to C.A.R.E.S. But I think we should do it anyway. Whether we get additional C.A.R.E.S. Funding or not.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Councilmember pool is moving that we add \$750,000 for

[6:54:36 PM]

childcare, and that the source of that revenue be reserves.

>> Pool: And it is for the six explicit that are in my one-pager, the six selected centers that are in districts 1, 2, 3 and 4.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Is there a second to this motion? Councilmember kitchen seconds it. Discussion?

>> Mayor?

>> Mayor Adler: Mayor pro tem Garza.

>> Garza: Ed, could you mute? Your typing is a little loud. Obviously support childcare, and I'm sorry, I don't know if somebody asked this question, where are we in our reserves? Are we at our -- I thought the R.I.S.E. Funding had possibly put us in a position where we

[6:55:39 PM]

[lapse in audio] Right at the policy level we were supposed to be at.

>> Our budget is right now right at the 12% policy level.

>> Garza: So this addition will put us below?

>> It will put us below 12%, yeah.

>> Garza: I want to hear the discussion. I would add an amendment that it -- are these the camps that -- are these after-school camps or are these the camps that people -- are these the summer camps? Councilmember pool?

>> Pool: I need to unmute. What I have in my additional information, park staff are actively collaborating with ISD and other districts to use recreation centers as safe places during covid for childcare and virtual learning. So that would be both during school hours and after, with

[6:56:40 PM]

social distancing while schools are at a reduced capacity. The centers would serve as additional education locations for students. Aisd would be less burdened by capacity limitations, families would have a safe place for their children during the school day. And then it goes on to say that for every 200,000 in funding, the childcare program can serve an additional 50 students a week. And originally it was 1.5 million, which is 375 children.

>> Garza: So I just -- I have mixed feelings, because there's so many childcare facilities barely being able to stay open right now. And a lot of -- so then I wonder if the best use of our dollars is to be helping subsidize those childcare facilities, many of them affordable, living on tiny

[6:57:40 PM]

margins for family businesses that have been in business for decades in Austin, about to close, and many of us close to childcare can name -- easily name several of those. You know, many of these starting go fund me pages to be able to stay. So I struggle with, is this money -- if we're taking from the reserve, it's got to be -- we're getting the best bang for our dollar. So I don't know if this is necessarily it. Again, I'm open to discussion. And I would want to add some kind of amendment that -- my understanding of hearing mothers talk about waiting in line for when the registration opens, and there's a real equity issue of mothers who can do that, who can logon at 8:00, and deal with all the system issues, and then I would want to add some kind of amendment that say we would do it -- there would be some kind

[6:58:41 PM]

of income eligibility that allows families that, you know, are in need the most, to be able to have some of those spots. Because regardless of where the centers are in the city, families will travel to affordable childcare, from everywhere in the city. So again, those are just my thoughts. And I'll listen to the discussion.

>> Pool: I think there wouldn't be a cost, but

>> Pool: I think there wouldn't be a course, I'd have to check that the did it March rec center, spring rec center, pan American rec center and turner Roberts rec center.

>> Mayor?

>> Garza: Yeah, I know my experience with families, it doesn't mean they're necessarily serving families close to those centers.

>> Mayor Adler: Council member Flannigan.

>> Flannigan: I agree with mayor pro tem Garza. You know, the item that council member alter and myself and councilmembers

[6:59:42 PM]

Ellis and in many and Ellis, put together on child care, for those who have been participating in the economic development meetings, you know the expansion of that program and the inclusion of more varied types of child care facilities, and I think mayor pro tem Garza is really spot on with this, in 2.1, you know, creating a city, subsidized alternative to something, we're also trying to survive or keep small businesses is challenging, relying to luck, and I also share my concern about dipping into reserves. You know, we find ourselves, I find myself and I think we find ourselves a lot where the core idea sounds great, and some of us, I think -- well, I want to be clear how I say this. I want to be sure that we're proposing things in a way that we know we can fund and not putting councilmembers in awkward positions to say no on

[7:00:43 PM]

very good, amazing ideas because some of us are willing to say no because there just isn't the money. Because if we're going to talk about child care and funding child care, then in addition, besides the -- maybe we should put more money into the program that's keeping child care centers open, which is already in existence, I'm going to start looking at the other things that we're funding and saying, well, maybe child care is more important than that. And I just don't know that we want to be in that conversation.

>> Mayor Adler: Further discussion? It's been moved and seconded. Anything else? Ready to take a vote? Council member Casar and council member alter.

>> Casar: Yeah, I think to council member Flannigan's point, there's been a pretty finally tuned ball that everybody has been working on these last few weeks. This is an important program. Of course, obviously, we're talking about the Gus Garcia center in my district and other rec centers in districts 1, 2, 3, and 4. If we wanted tilted, I

[7:01:43 PM]

would say we would pull from parks money before I would pull from reserve, which we've been usually trying to save for those really emergency midyear budget situations. And so I would want to see whether we would move that money before we would start pulling into things that we might be needing for, like, emergency covid tests or something.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Council member alter.

>> So I think we absolutely need to do more to support child care. I appreciate the perspective that mayor pro tem offered about the existing businesses and what we should be doing. I am uncomfortable going into reserves at this time for it, but I had a couple other thoughts of funding that might not get it funded today, but that, as we're looking at what the task force is doing, and they're coming back, hopefully, soon, might provide the

[7:02:43 PM]

funding. Then I wanted to make a quick comment on fees. So as I mentioned earlier, I believe that some of the money that we're putting into ems should fall into covid, and particularly potentially

[indiscernible] Of our of our funding of that process takes time, et cetera, but staff could figure out whether it's eligible and how to do that, but we might be able to do use some of those funds as soon as we're able able table to do that work. Another idea I had, sometimes we end up with more reservation at the end of the fiscal year that then get rolled over because we have to do our budget earlier this year, we don't have the benefit of that full knowledge, we're kind of guesstimating it. So we could provide direction that if we have extra reserves above our 12%, that staff should come back to us and

[7:03:47 PM]

suggest if there are child care investments we should be making, as soon as we're at a point where we feel like we have

[indiscernible] Of those reserves or significant amount of those reserves to be able to try to repurpose. I do think reserves Bo of the 12%, that is Randall expense at the time of covid, is something of high school. Another thing I want to mention, I'm wondering if the cfps on home care are costed out because they can't start right way on training academies or if those were the full amounts. We had to lower a bunch of the ems pieces in my amendment, and I don't know if that process ever happened for the chips to go along with the ems training academy.

>> I would have to check on that and get back to you very shortly.

>> Alter: Okay.

[7:04:47 PM]

I mean, we'd still need those next year. The last thing I just wanted to comment on at some point when we do talk about fee, I think we need to hear from pard because am I understanding, they don't think that's actually going to net any more fees because there will be people who don't go golf, and net, it will actually potentially cost the general fund more revenue, but I haven't had erred that directly -- I haven't heard that directly from staff, that's what I heard indirectly on that. So I don't know that it's a guaranteed benefit for the general fund period or something that we can spend, especially while the golf courses aren't running very well in terms of -- with covid.

>> Pool: Mayor, what I'd like to say at this juncture, I appreciate the direction council member alter is going and I'd like to give staff an opportunity to check on funding levels, as far as start-up time. So I'd like to table this particular item for now and we can bring it back when we get some additional information from our staff.

[7:05:47 PM]

>> Mayor Adler: Sounds good. Any objection to tabling this at this point?

>> I can tell you real quick, mayor, I've been told that there was nine pay periods of vacancy savings included for those chips. They're essentially budgeted for nine months.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay.

>> Kitchen: Mayor, can you see it?

>> Mayor Adler: I can see everybody. Uh-huh.

>> Kitchen: I wanted to comment on the chips. Yeah. They're budgeted for nine months. I don't want to be reducing the budgeting for the chip's. I want to be assuming that we're starting immediately on those. So that's why I was thinking that we put it in there at less than 12 months, but I think it's appropriate at the level that it's in.

>> Mayor Adler: Council member alter?

>> Alter: I just want to clarify, I wasn't suggesting to reduce what we could do. There is a whole process for when the medics come out of the training

[7:06:48 PM]

academy, at which point the physician started, and at one point there was a question of whether that had been adjusted. It sounds like it was adjusted, but I was just trying to get clarification if it was.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Thank you. So council member pool, we're going to put on the table --

>> Pool: Well, I think what I'd like to do, mayor, the other thing council member alter suggested was wait and see in a couple weeks when we true up our reserve numbers, we can potentially bring this back. So I'm not going to -- I guess I will be tabling it, but it's not just for later tonight. I want to table it to have a longer discussion when we get a sense of what funds might be available for it. I still believe in this item. I do think it will be of benefit to the community.

>> Mayor Adler: Tabling it now is without prejudice to your ability to bring it up at any point here going forward. Certainly, if we get

[indiscernible] To let us have some cares money, we could be meeting here in just a couple weeks on

[7:07:48 PM]

that. Let's keep our fingers crossed. Council member Renteria, then the mayor pro tem.

>> Renteria: Yes, mayor. I -- if we're really going to be looking into it, I would prefer for them to look at the montopolis rec center instead of pan am. Montopolis is really the hot spot here in east Austin. They're the ones that have been affected the most. And plus those are the areas there where the real low income -- income people are living at, and there's a lot of children there that -- they're going to need some kind of assistance and help, you know, their parents are going to need assistance and help. So -- and the youth facility, I don't know if it's open yet, but they've been working on it, and it's just -- it's a beautiful little facility, and I would prefer that if they would look at that first, if they're -- when they look into the centers and see

[7:08:50 PM]

where the funds can come through, from, and instead of pan am, pan am we've been objectified so much over here, that there's -- there's not as many kids here in the Cesar chavez/holly area, so I would prefer it to be focused more on montopolis. There's two school districts there, the del valle and Austin ISD. So that would be my preferred site if we can find the funding, and if it's open.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Anything else? Mayor pro tem?

>> Garza: I just want to thank council member pool for bringing this. Just not knowing what other monetary amendments are coming, and there is no money, so they would all be coming from the reserve, so trying to understand what that's going to be like, and then also, you know, usually parks & rec is able to waive the --

[7:09:53 PM]

they're able to provide more affordable child care because they're able to -- if I remember correctly -- waive the -- what's it called? The number of kids per staffer, that other -- the day -- that child cares don't have to do. They have to stick to their -- I forget what the term is, but the ratios, basically. And so I don't know if we want to be busting ratios in a pandemic, either. And I don't want to put people in tough positions and taking tough votes, but I would totally support 750 from the reserve to go to the child care bucket of helping child cares right now, because there really is such a significant need. And even in the one million we were able to allocate, I know places that didn't get money. And they're going to close permanently. So I just want to thank you for bringing that and hopefully we can find the money.

>> Pool: Thank you, mayor pro tem, for that support, and I promise we will do everything we can to bring it back at a later time.

>> Mayor Adler: Thank you. Any other monetary things before we move on to

[7:10:53 PM]

riders? Council member alter.

>> Alter: I just want to clarify that my alter 1 is monetary but doesn't it take from general fund, it takes from fees, so I don't know when you wanted to --

>> Mayor Adler: So let's pick that up in fees.

>> Alter: Okay. But it will still need to be -- we still need to have the fees and we have to be voting on it with the budget.

>> Mayor Adler: It can go -- it can go either way. Let's pick it up with fees because it all gets approved, it's all part of the budget, before we take a vote on the budget.

>> Alter: That's fine. I just --

>> Mayor Adler: Okay.

>> Alter: -- Wanted to clarify that.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. We'll pick it up then. Anything else on the monetary stuff before we get to -- all right. So let's move then to budget riders and let's go through the budget rider list. We were talking about

[7:11:54 PM]

whether or not we need to pull any of these. We're going to give everybody a chance to speak to their rider or someone else's rider if they want to, but are there riders here that need -- that we know need to be pulled? Council member pool? Which one?

>> Pool: Thanks, mayor. My rider is budget direction. If I can offer it now, is that all right?

>> Mayor Adler: Hang on one second. I'm seeing -- I'm seeing if there are some that we don't need to debate. So the nature of a consent agenda, I'm looking at budget riders, and I have harper-madison budget riders 1 and 2. I have Garza budget riders 1, 2, and 3. I have Casar budget rider 1. Kitchen budget rider 1 and 2. Flannigan budget riders 1, 2, and 3.

[7:12:55 PM]

I have Ellis 2 and Ellis 4. And I have tovo budget rider 1. And then I have alter budget rider 1 and 2. Let's just go through these --

>> Alter: I posted a third one on the message board.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay.

>> Alter: An amendment to harper-madison's.

>> Mayor Adler: That's an amendment, though; right?

>> Alter: It's an amendment to someone else's budget rider, yeah. Amendment 3 -- budget rider 3 is for the workforce thing in the base.

>> Mayor Adler: Yes. Let's just run through these. It'll be easier. Harper-madison budget rider 1. Council member harper-madison, there was the budget rider, there was an amendment that was offered to the rider. Is your motion the budget rider 1 as amended?

[7:13:58 PM]

Or you want to make the motion first and then have the amendment made?

>> Tovo: Mayor?

>> Mayor Adler: Yes.

>> Tovo: Mayor, can I have a request? We've got a lot of information in front of us, lots of amendments, lots of message board posts. As people talk about their budget riders, if they could possibly tell us what page in the packet that was sent out this morning their budget rider appears on, that would be super helpful. I'm not sure they're in the packet in the order that we're going through with councilmembers,

so if you could just kind of point us to -- I'm not sure I can point you to mine, so I hope I go last, but if people could just point us to which page that's on that would really be helpful.

>> Harper-madison: That was the setup, Kathie, because I don't know where mine is, either --

[laughter] So I'm happy to find that information real quick, but you have to wait just a second.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. So yours, council member harper-madison, budget item number 1 is page 1

[7:15:00 PM]

of Diane's packet that got handed out.

>> Harper-madison: Thank you.

>> Mayor Adler: It was also an amendment that was filed and posted that was amendment to budget rider 1, v2.

>> Tovo: Mayor, the packet we got this morning is actually 158 pages. Can you tell me what number --

>> Mayor Adler: Oh, I see. Yeah, yeah, yeah. I'm sorry.

>> If you're using in the PDF pages, in the document it's PDF page 81. But if you're just in the budget rider section, it's page 1 of the budget rider section.

>> Tovo: 81 is where the budget riders start. Thank you so much. Or where council member harper-madison's starts. Thank you.

>> Mayor Adler: So council member harper-madison, you move budget rider number 1.

>> Harper-madison: I did, but what I'd like to do is hear what the amendment was to make

[7:16:01 PM]

certain that I'm following -- it was your amendment, right?

>> Mayor Adler: Yes.

>> Harper-madison: Okay.

>> Mayor Adler: It was the one that tracked the language in the bulletin board post two days ago.

>> Harper-madison: I'm sorry, you said it was the one that did what?

>> Mayor Adler: It tracked the language in the bulletin board post we had two days ago.

>> Harper-madison: And you -- okay. Let me just make sure we're all on the same page. You're talking about the budget rider number 1 that put 128.72 million into the transition budget?

>> Mayor Adler: Correct. And then there was an amendment that we all joined in that provided some additional language, it was what we were circulating this morning.

>> Harper-madison: I thought we found a workaround for that. Give me just a second.

[7:17:10 PM]

>> Mayor Adler: Okay.

>> Harper-madison: Oh, okay. Yes.

>> Pool: And can I just double-check, this is version 2 of budget rider number 1, it's page 81 in the big PDF? That's where I found it.

>> Mayor Adler: Correct.

>> Harper-madison: Yes. I'd like to make the motion with the amendment.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. So there was also an amendment that was posted and circulated that had harper-madison, me, alter, and tovo amendment, it was harper-madison budget rider number 1, V 2. So it was the amendment to that that's been circulated and posted. That's the motion on the rider. Okay? Is there a second to the motion and the rider? Mayor pro tem seconds it.

[7:18:12 PM]

Discussion? On that? Council member alter.

>> Alter: I would like to make an amendment to the version that was just put forward as the base for this, according to what I posted on the message board during the are a break, which adds under the section about what we're empowering

[indiscernible] 2, section 3, it adds to part C, it says recommendations on changes to legislation and contract provisions to go toward reimagining public safety. It adds a clause, with recommendations for the city's legislative agenda delivered to council for consideration at least 30 days before the start of the '20-'21 legislative session. My concern is if we don't specify that, we will get

[7:19:12 PM]

the information too late to advance anything in the legislative session and then we'll be waiting another two years for that. That's the first part. And then the second part adds some elements to part B of professional standards. So to part 2, it extends the phrasing, where it says ongoing training and discipline once officers are in the field, including reputable leadership training that would benefit organizational culture, then it adds a part 4 that says review of the promotion process and any related meet and cover contract provisions to ensure promoted officers exemplify community skills and values beyond those prioritized by the current written assessment and scoring matrix.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Let's take those up separately.

>> Sorry.

>> Mayor Adler: Yes, mayor pro tem?

>> Garza: I'm sorry. I thought we were talking

[7:20:13 PM]

about harper-madison 1.

>> Mayor Adler: We are.

>> Garza: Oh. Which is the juneteenth?

>> Pool: Page 81. Page 81. It's the budget direction on A.P.D.

>> Harper-madison: It's the rider number 1.

>> Mayor Adler: Rider number 1.

>> Garza: Oh, okay. I'm sorry. I thought we were on that and that's why I seconded it. I might have still seconded it but I'm just trying to understand what I just seconded. Sorry.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. I'll second it so we can continue to move forward in the event the mayor pro tem does not. We're now discussing harper-madison budget rider number 1, v2, as amended. Council member -- now, council member alter made an amendment to that. What was the first one of the three amendments you made?

>> Alter: It was just asking them to have the city's -- the recommendations related to the city's legislative [indiscernible] For consideration at least 30 days before the start of

[7:21:15 PM]

[indiscernible] --

>> Pool: I'm happy to second.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Does anybody have any objection to asking mistake of to come back timely with any legislative changes they Ed to make? Hearing none, that amendment is included. What's your second amendment?

>> Alter: The second amendment adds some stuff about training and promotions to professional standards section. These are things I've referenced in December as potential recommendations to come back, but it's to include leadership training that would benefit A.P.D. Organizational

[indiscernible], review the promotion process as part of how we are reimagining things.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. In harper-madison's motion, item number 5b is professional standards.

>> Alter: Yes.

>> Mayor Adler: And you're moving to amendment that to add...what?

>> Alter: So, number 2,

[7:22:17 PM]

on page -- page 3 of hers, for professional standards, for the little numeral 2, mine reads, training and discipline once officers are in the field, including reputable leadership training that would benefit A.P.D. Organizational culture. And this is, by the way, on the message board if anyone wants to read it.

>> Mayor Adler: So add that phrase to the -- sorry, go ahead.

>> Alter: And then I add a part 4 that says review of the promotion process and any related meet and cover contract provisions to ensure promoted officers exemplify community skills and values beyond those prioritized by the current written assessment and scoring matrix.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Council member alter moves to amend this section by adding some additional detail on the continuing training and assessment. Council member harper-madison?

[7:23:18 PM]

>> Harper-madison: I'm actually not at all opposed to that. The one thing I would say, though, that caught my attention when hearing that -- my apologies, I didn't get an opportunity to check the message board during the break. It was all I could do to make food for my children. So I'm -- some language around making sure that the process -- the promotion process is equitable I think would be favorable. And then I do have a question about the exemplifies community skills and values beyond those prioritized by the current written assessment and scoring matrix. I'm just trying to figure out how we -- I

like that, I'm just trying to figure out how do we -- how do people demonstrate proficiency? How do they go about demonstrating that they've accomplished those expectations?

>> Alter: So I guess what I'm asking, what I'm asking them to do is review the process because the process doesn't do that right now.

>> Harper-madison: Right.

>> Alter: It's just because this -- an

[7:24:18 PM]

assessment that doesn't take into consideration any emotional intelligence and other kinds of experiences beyond the basics. So I'm not trying to prescribe -- I was just simply, you know, trying to fit this into the reimagine, saying that we need to look at the promotion process if we want our police force to function differently. And the prior part is that we need to provide leadership training and that goes beyond some of the other training that we've already talked about in implicit bias and racial profiling to just basic leadership skills and management skills for our officers who are promoted who don't receive any of that. So I wasn't trying to prescribe exactly what the solutions were to any of those. I was just trying to lay out that those are parts of the reimagining process that, when we're looking at professional standards, we need to look at. So I would be open -- I'm asking for this to be

[7:25:20 PM]

determined through

[indiscernible] Process, not to define them, which is what I thought this section was laying out, what they were supposed to be looking into. I'm open to other -- other language, but I really wanted to say that we need to provide leadership training for our officers, particularly if they're in leadership roles, and we need to have a promotion process that's going to lead to officers in leadership roles that reflect the values and the things that we're trying to achieve through this process. But if there's language issues of what I put,

[indiscernible] It's the leadership and promotions that matters.

>> Harper-madison: No language issues whatsoever, just my initial reaction was equity, but I mean, especially given that -- yeah, I know that deputy city manager is completely competent and capable, but the thing that came to mind for me was how do you measure that thing. So I'm not necessarily asking to you prescribe it, if you hadn't thought through that already, I was just trying to get clarity if you had thought through that, like what would that look

[7:26:20 PM]

like to you. But there's no opposition on my part by the language you're proposing. I think it's necessary.

>> Alter: Okay.

>> Mayor Adler: Council member Flannigan.

>> Flannigan: I would just add, I think the language is fine. I think in the general sense where we are with the budget riders, it's going to take continued council oversight, much like after the resolutions we did on June 11th and worked those pretty intentionally through the public safety committee. So I expect that we will do a similar thing with the budget riders that are being adopted related to public safety, we will continue to work with staff to help refine. So I don't think we should consider today's wordsmithing like we were writing an ordinance, it's more a high level direction, here's the stuff we want to go out and see and we'll make it happen through this iterative process that I think has been working pretty well over the last two months.

>> Mayor Adler: All right. Is there any objection to including those amendments? Hearing none, those amendments are included. Council member Alter, was there a third one, or did that --

>> Alter: My third one is

[7:27:20 PM]

for the make it now program.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay of the let's hold off on

--okay. Let's hold off on that one. Further discussion on harper-madison rider 1? Council member Kitchen.

>> Kitchen: I have a question and then a light wording suggestion. So my question is, on page 1, I just want to understand item number 1. So it appears to me that the list that's included is the same list as in council member Casar's. It's worded differently and I just want to make sure that we're not doing anything different from a content standpoint because council member harper-madison refers to putting all of these items into a transition budget, and council member Casar's refers to decouple funds and a reimagining public safety fund. And I just want to know --

>> Mayor Adler: And that was conformed in the amendment.

[7:28:20 PM]

So the amendment --

>> Kitchen: I think it's -- it's not in the amendment I'm looking at, it's not conformed. But I don't really care, I just want to make sure there's no -- there's no content difference.

>> Mayor Adler: It specifically cause out, a, decouple fund, it has those items listed below that. Then it has B, reimagine safety fund and has those items.

>> Kitchen: Okay. Well, what page is that amendment then? Because I must be looking -- I'm looking at version 2 on page 81 and it doesn't have that in it.

>> Mayor Adler: I think it was posted to the message board this afternoon.

>> Kitchen: Okay.

>> Tovo: Mayor, if I may, I think the confusing thing is that the line before it -- and I don't know, council member kitchen, if this is what you're referring to, but the line before it talks about removing the following from the police budget and put into a transition budget. And so -- then it talks about the language below of decouple and reimagine.

>> Mayor Adler: Yes. So --

>> Tovo: [Indiscernible]

>> Mayor Adler: Council

[7:29:20 PM]

member kitchen, the original [indiscernible] Transition budget had everything in one list, the amendment broke it into two sections, the decouple section and the reimagine section.

>> Kitchen: Okay. I'll try following that amendment. But my point was just, was there any difference in content, and you're telling me no.

>> Mayor Adler: It's been conformed.

>> Kitchen: Okay. Then the second question I have is just on -- it's on page 2, I think it's item number 4, and it's listing some items to empower the deputy city manager to work with the police monitor to propose transformative change on. This item number C is homelessness. I would just like to add to that a reference to -- it could be worded such that it's in alignment with the consultant's report that we received and the implementation

[7:30:20 PM]

work plan that's being developed right now. I just want to -- I would expect that the deputy city manager would do that, but I want to make it clear that we already have a process going on for -- for change in how we handle homelessness. I think this is good to have, I just don't want it to be done in a silo, in

conjunction with work the consultants are doing, I wouldn't want it to slow down the work the consultants are doing.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. I'm sorry.

>> Mayor Adler: You want to hear from the deputy manager or you want to promote it as a word change?

>> Kitchen: Let me just ask the deputy city manager if she would understand that intent.

>> Council members, I certainly do understand that intent and I'm in agreement with it. We have spent a lot of time with our consultants in creating that strategy and a lot of staff time really aligning, talking

[7:31:21 PM]

with our new public/private partnerships and our coalitions, so everything we do will be aligned in that as well.

>> Kitchen: Okay. Thank you.

>> Mayor Adler: Council member alter?

>> Alter: I think it's really important that this direction be coming, you know, from the full council, which is what I believe is the intention on this. So I wanted to ask council member harper-madison if she'd be amenable for that first paragraph, just sort of adding that it's from the whole council rather than -- from her office alone. So I might -- I'm open to whatever you want, but I did try to do it where it would say the following are areas of interest for possible reallocation so we delete my office is looking at. And then in the last sentence of that first paragraph, instead of I, it would say the council

[7:32:22 PM]

and it would say recommends instead of recommend.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. I think what council member harper-madison originally filed this, she was speaking for herself.

>> Alter: Of course. Of course.

>> Mayor Adler: It's now everybody adopting this. Is there any objection to that change? Seeing none, that change is also made to reflect the whole council. Further -- further amendments? I have one more, Lela, the attorney told us that the intent to try and have no money spent in the second six months was not something that we're allowed to do because the law says that when you have the money, the money is to be spent. The language that she suggests instead of that has been circulated, also posted.

[7:33:23 PM]

So this is the section that -- on harper-madison, it's number 2, and what she's proposing is that the language would read, council directs the manager to report to council quarterly on the funding and expenditures in the A.P.D. Budget, including the items in the decouple fund and reimagine safety fund. By the end of the first quarter of fiscal year '20-'21, the manager shall return to the council of a plan for public engagement, culminating in a budget amendment process no later than March of 2021, to consider public safety funding and to amend the budget at that time. Council anticipates meeting and moving forward several times as a council before next March, but this requirement will insure a deep dive into the public safety budget and decision making timeline at least by that date.

[7:34:24 PM]

So it's -- so I would offer the language as suggested by legal since we can't have the other language. Apparently this is as close as we can get to not having -- trying to create a default where this has to come back to us but is part of a budget amendment process. Council member kitchen.

>> Kitchen: I understand the change in the language. I assume the date is the date that we could -- we could say sooner if we wanted it to be.

>> Mayor Adler: Yes.

>> Kitchen: That strikes me -- March strikes me as later than we were contemplating.

>> Mayor Adler: That's kind of the six-month point of the fiscal year.

>> Kitchen: So you're counting it from October, not from here.

>> Mayor Adler: Correct.

[Indiscernible]

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Are people okay with that amendment? Okay. That amendment is now

[7:35:24 PM]

included. Any other amendments or changes to harper-madison 1? Then let's take a vote. Council member tovo.

>> Tovo: Yeah, just -- we had talked earlier about the community partnerships figure. Council member Casar, I'm not sure how you wanted to handle it. I think at a minimum, I believe the explores figure is counted in both places, if my math is correct.

>> Casar: Yeah. I'm -- I was just hoping the staff would pop in and tell us how much to put in each bucket, based on sworn and not sworn. If you already have it, then let's just put it in.

>> Tovo: Well, you know, I would appreciate if the staff would double-check me, but if I understood the conversation we had earlier and your intent of putting the sworn programs in the second category and the primarily civilian programs in the first category, then I think what we would want to do under E is deduct -- I think we need to deduct

[7:36:26 PM]

584 for police athletic league and 279 for explores, and add in the second category the 584 for police athletic league, and I think that -- I think that leaves community partnerships at 2.23, but honestly, I would really -- again, I'm kind of doing this on the fly, and I think I captured the numbers correctly but if staff could help us sort that out, that would -- that would be good, since we're asking them to do something with one that is a little different from what we're asking them to do with the two, and I think we've got some overlap in terms of figures being counted in two places.

>> Casar: Staff could just come and refresh us when they have that number, and I think we have unanimity that all the numbers get updated the way they say it if they just come with that number.

>> Mayor Adler: Ed, are you okay with that?

>> Tovo: So then is

[7:37:36 PM]

police athletic league in B?

>> Casar: Reimagine safety sworn and decouple in civilian, if they just put those two numbers for us, we can plug them in.

>> Tovo: Great.

>> Mayor Adler: Ed, did you follow that? You're muted.

>> Tell me what the two numbers are you're looking for. I might have them in front of me.

>> Tovo: Yeah, Ed, what I think -- again, this is -- this was other councilmembers' lists, so I don't want to overstep here, but what I think the intent was here was for the community partnerships -- I believe the community partnerships number, figure under the decouple fund.

>> Uh-huh.

>> Tovo: Should include the programs within community partnerships other than the police athletic league and the explores. And I think that number

[7:38:38 PM]

is 2-point -- well, if you would just figure out what that is. Then in B, I believe there needs to be added a line for police athletic league for a total of 584. It's unclear to me whether explores is above and below or just below. I think it's -- I think it is above and below. So that's why I think in the decouple fund, community partnerships need to deduct 584, if that's [indiscernible], and 279 for explores, and then I think below, you they'd to add in police athletic league at 584.

>> That's the way it looks to me as well.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Any objection to those changes? Hearing none, they're included as well. Anything else on this budget rider? Those in favor, please raise your hand. Those opposed? That one is adopted.

[7:39:39 PM]

Okay. Now let's go to -- I think the next budget rider is harper-madison budget rider 2. I think it's page 85 of the document. This is the future budget process rider. Does anybody have any objections to this rider being included? Council member kitchen.

>> Kitchen: No objection, I just have a question.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay.

>> Kitchen: I was trying to understand the -- the community-led board and community forums. I was wondering, it seemed to me this might be the same process that deputy city manager was speaking to with regard to the steering committee that she has created, or is this process in addition to that?

[7:40:43 PM]

>> I can't speak to that. I think it would be appropriate to have the deputy city manager speak to that.

>> Mayor Adler: That's fair. Is the deputy city manager here?

>> I apologize, I was not catching that. Would you repeat the question?

>> Kitchen: My question was, on reading the second paragraph of the rider, which says -- which suggests creating a community-led board or other body which will provide recommendations alongside the boards and commissions and city staff, recommendations in the budget process, and then there's functionality for that entity, and it's another -- some other language about what that entity would do. So I read it as creating the new entity, but I don't know if that was the intent.

>> So -- and I understand your question now. Yes, to answer your question, in addition to.

[7:41:44 PM]

>> Kitchen: Okay. Okay. So this -- and this is intended for our budget process in general, it's not just something going on as part of the reimagining process.

>> Correct.

>> Kitchen: Okay. Okay. Thank you.

>> You're welcome.

>> Mayor Adler: Does anybody have any objections to harper-madison number 2 being included? Council member Flannigan?

>> Flannigan: Yeah, I just wanted to note I had a lot of questions and the last sentence is great because it just -- it has the manager come back to us to articulate the analysis of it before it's acted upon. So there's time to kind of flush out some of the more questions than to do it right now. So thank you, council member harper-madison, for the way you laid that out.

>> Harper-madison: Is your.

>> Mayor Adler: Any objections? Council member alter.

>> Alter: I have just a question. So I'm fine with them coming back with a process for us to discuss, but I don't know that I have a full

[7:42:44 PM]

understanding of how this complements all the work that's already done with our boards and commissions on budget, and who would be on this board and what their scope is, because I'm not sure that we have all the boards and commissions, and I'm not sure we need to shadow council for the budget, but I may just not be understanding it. So if it's going to come back to us and we can look at it, I'm okay with it, but I don't -- I don't -- I'm concerned about duplicating a lot of work, and I'm not -- I'm not at this point understanding the value of it, but maybe when it comes back, you know, for the whole budget -- I might just be missing something with all the material we've had.

>> Mayor Adler: Discussio N on this? Council member Flannigan?

>> Flannigan: Yeah. So I think -- I have a lot of ideas on this, so it'll be a fun exploration, I think, once we hear back from the staff on that. One of the ideas, council member alter, is something that I'm starting to work on with

[7:43:44 PM]

the public safety commission and having them partner with the public safety committee as kind of a one-two process. So one idea might be a commission that is tied to your committee, that you chair, that can do public engagement stuff, can do other types of activities. We're going to start demoing some of those ideas on the public safety side, so we may find some good synergy there.

>> Mayor Adler: Council member kitchen?

>> Kitchen: I think this is well worth discussing, so I appreciate council member harper-madison bringing it forward. Just in terms of direction to -- not direction but my thoughts to the city manager as he works on bringing this back to us, and also to -- to Ed, I think that there's been a significant work done with our commissions, including our quality of life commissions and related commissions in the budget process. And I would not want us to do something that --

[7:44:48 PM]

that replaced in any way or put something in over them in any way or in any way reduced their ability to provide input because they've really been doing -- you know, we have the joint inclusion committee, we have all the other -- all the quality of life committees, and they've been doing a great -- a really good job working hand in hand with the budget office and starting that early in the process. So to city manager and to Mr. Van eenoo, when you think about this, I would just ask you to bear that in mind, I would want it to not -- not to replace that process or overshadow the process we have in place right now.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Council member harper-madison?

>> Harper-madison: Yes.

>> Mayor Adler: Does anybody have any objection to this budget amendment from council member harper-madison? Hearing none, this one, number 2, is in. Let's then go to policy

[7:45:52 PM]

direction from, one, from mayor pro tem Garza. This is let Texas vote day. Is there any objection to this item going in?

>> Alter: Can I just ask a question?

>> Mayor Adler: Go ahead.

>> Alter: I just wanted to confirm that there were no budget implications. I see kind of conflicted information about what it is and what it costs and what they do, so that mayor pro tem worked through

that, I know that she's been working hard, and I just -- as we're going through this process, I wanted to make sure that there weren't additional costs associated with this that we need to be aware of.

>> Council member, we have our human resources director, [indiscernible] Hays on the line to help with this one. This is being proposed as an optional holiday, so I'll let her speak to that.

>> Alter: I wasn't sure what that meant since we don't get any holidays.

>> We actually don't have an option called option holidays, and the budget

[7:46:52 PM]

question that we provided to council, we recommended an optional holiday where we would give three different times during the voting period for people to optionally take that day off, so it would represent the cost of one voting holiday. But they would have the option to do it in three. As council member Garza has -- our mayor pro tem has laid this one out, there would be no option, this holiday would be first come, first serve. The cost of the holiday is the same information we provided on juneteenth. I think the difference between this one and that one is that on this one, our sworn would be able to use it, but they would have to request the time off from the management or supervisor, and we would only be able to allow those off who would not impact the regular service of that department. And so the cost would be similar, depending on who took it and when, but the cost would be a lot more limited than what you see in the budget rider information relative to sworn cost because they would only allow it for those who would be able

[7:47:52 PM]

to take off without impact to the operations.

>> Alter: So how do we account for that?

>> We would have to figure that out. We don't have optional holiday, as the state does it, the state gives you additional holidays and you have the option to use -- to take those. We don't have that infrastructure, so we'd have to work on it. We'd have to come back to council with the cost of the holiday based on the usage of it and the need for departments based on that November holiday. So at most, it would be what you saw in the budget rider information, but we don't expect it to be that high because we would only be allowing those who have been approved to take it. But I wouldn't be able to give you any cost estimates is to what that would look like without going through the process and seeing what that would include.

>> Alter: Okay. And when does this go into effect then for --

[7:48:54 PM]

this November or for --

>> I believe, and I can refer to the mayor pro tem, I think this optional holiday wouldn't be set in place for this November's election. Keep in mind, employees still have the ability to use the up to three-hour provision that's already provided to all employees, so even those that come to work would receive that as well, but November would be the first time we would actually be able to give you any consistent cost as to what this new version of holiday would cost the city.

>> Alter: Okay. I'm not sure I digest all that, but maybe --

>> Mayor, it's my understanding -- mayor? Where did you go? Oh. You were up there and you went down. That was weird.

>> Mayor Adler: Sorry. Go ahead.

>> My understanding is, it would be absorbed by departments just like administration leave, administrative hours are.

[7:49:55 PM]

There are people who wouldn't be able to take this. But this is a first step. We were trying to find the one that involved the least cost to get us to this first step, just like when we were trying to implement \$15 an hour, we did it a little bit at a time. I just think it's really important to offer this goes -- this option, it's a way for people to specifically engage if they want to volunteer or something like that. So it is something new, but we're doing a lot of new stuff in this budget so -- yeah.

>> Alter: Thank you, mayor pro tem. I appreciate and want to encourage, I was just trying to understand as we were doing a budget rider, if it had budget implications and, you know, we've had a lot of different approaches to holidays than what we've seen before, so I appreciate the clarity of understanding it's more like administrative leave. Thank you.

[7:50:59 PM]

>> Mayor Adler: Ed, if we approved this budget rider, does it have zero implications for your numbers on budget? You're muted.

>> At this time, I think it would have to. Like Julia was saying, or director Hays was saying, we don't have a program like this, and so, you know, it's somewhat uncertain exactly what the cost would be, but given the optional nature of it, it would be significantly lower than -- than what a full holiday would -- would have cost us.

>> Mayor Adler: Thank you. Is there any objection to let Texas vote day rider go in? Hearing none, seeing none, that goes in. All right. The next thing to consider here is

[7:52:00 PM]

[indiscernible] Rider number 2. Policy direction dealing with logistical support services on abortion access. Any discussion on this rider? I think pool has an amendment on this one. Is that right?

>> Pool: Yep. And I think that the direction was to kind of fine tune --

[indiscernible] The mayor pro tem.

>> Garza: I'm sorry, I don't -- what --

>> Mayor Adler: Did you want to make an amendment to this, council member pool? No? Okay.

>> Pool: No, I -- my money amendment is already in the base motion. Mayor pro tem had some direction she wanted to offer in regards to this.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Does anybody want to -- anybody object to this policy direction budget

[7:53:00 PM]

rider number 1 from mayor pro tem? It was actually rider 2. Hearing none, this direction is in. Let's go then to the next item. This is mayor pro tem Garza dealing with the food -- the program atx program. Is there discussion on this one? Colleagues, this is the one that I had raised before the -- before the break. I've circulated and posted an amendment. I support this. I'm all in favor of this. Some of the principles and [indiscernible] Are friends and used to be in my office so it wouldn't bother me at all if they got this contract, I just think it's a bad policy for us in the document itself to be picking a

[7:54:02 PM]

vendor. So I was just going to suggest an amendment that says that we do this, have the one-time funds, and then we say what it's supposed to do to address social determinants of health, and that we just take out the -- the reference to any one particular vendor. It also takes out, I think, the -- yeah. And did this have the ftes in it? Or did the ftes come out? I think the ftes came out of this as well?

>> It came out.

>> Mayor Adler: Already. So it would also amend to take out the two ftes. Any objection to that amendment being included? Yes, mayor pro tem?

>> Garza: Mayor, I absolutely understand what your goal is, and I know we've worked really hard to have, you know, sometimes rules on

[7:55:04 PM]

things, and I -- I generally agree that we shouldn't specifically name things. But we have done this before, in the past. And my main issue is -- I'm trying to keep this really short because I don't want to -- I know we have a lot more riders to go through. But this program, when this program started, council member harper-madison and I had very lengthy discussions about how do we get stuff out to people, how do we get milk, how do we get, you know, tampons and diapers, how do we get to the people who are in need the most during this pandemic? And we quickly found out we didn't have to invent that, we didn't have to do it ourselves. I started calling capmetro and asking can we get a bus. I learned there was already a group doing exactly what we -- what we had imagined in our mind, and they had been delayed because of covid. They were -- they had funding for northeast Austin, they were looking for additional funding for southeast Austin.

[7:56:05 PM]

In addition to a long history with my office, working with staff, trying to address food access, and finding that there are some philosophical differences in what food access is between what del valle has been begging for in terms of a grocery store, as opposed to this -- to what specifically our sustainability office believes is not a grocery store. They think food access is something else. Council member Flannigan, I know how you hate us, you know, getting into the weeds, and -- but this one comes from a place of -- I had been working on this, and I don't -- we're in a public health crisis. I don't want to slow down a process. I could maybe accept a compromise and say something like equidot or something similar, but I'd hate to slow down the wheels on this bus, pun intended, from getting started, to provide these services. And so I'm going to -- if you're going to make the

[7:57:06 PM]

amendment, I'm going to vote no, and if it passes, then I hope we still get the funding. But I -- it's a really amazing program that's just not about vegetables, it's about -- I feel weird saying this word in front of -- but tampons and diapers and toothpaste, all that stuff. That's what del valle has been asking for, it provides a bridge, health resources, cancer screenings, being able to coordinate all of these mobile resources on certain days, so that's what I would push to -- there's somebody there ready to provide this, and I want -- I want to help them provide this as quickly as possible.

>> Mayor Adler: So, mayor pro tem, I'm not sure I disagree with a lot of what you said. And your suggestion for language change I would be okay with, so long as it becomes, you know, the staff has the discretion. I think it's real important to get this out quickly, just as you said. I think the staff has the ability to be able to take that into account as

[7:58:06 PM]

it sends out the money, but I think it should be staff making that. So having the language that has equidot or a similar or other organization to provide a similar result, just let staff make that call as opposed to us on the dais making a call about a vendor. If that works for you, that would be okay with me. Council member kitchen.

>> Kitchen: Well, you know, I understand that usually we don't name a vendor, but I think that the -- I think that the reasons that the mayor pro tem has articulated are sufficient for me. I am -- I am okay with keeping the vendor's name in, in this circumstance. We certainly don't want to slow it in this case I would be fine with it.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay.

[7:59:09 PM]

Yes. City attorney?

>> Mayor, just before anybody else weighs in, I think our recommendation would be that you take the name out of the budget rider and at the very least do what the mayor has suggested for all the reasons that you know about that we've talked about.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. I would move that we say equidot or some similar organization. Mayor pro tem?

>> Garza: I don't want to force a executive session, but we have specifically named things like, gosh, what was the name of the non-profit that got that land in winnebago?

>> Councilmember, I would say that you have done it in the past -- you all have done it in the past and we've really tried to steer you away from that and our recommendation would be that you not have a particular vendor in the budget rider. Of course, we always have competitive processes.

[8:00:11 PM]

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Let's go ahead and just take a vote. I'm going to break the amendment into two pieces. Does anybody have any objection to the ftes is that the understanding? The ftes are stricken. The

amendment is to equidot express or some similar organization. Those in favor of that amendment please raise your hand.

>> Garza: Did somebody second that?

>> Mayor Adler: Is there a stoked that -- a second to that amendment? Councilmember tovo second it. Those in favor of the amendment please raise your hand? It's me, [indiscernible], Casar, Renteria, pool. Those opposed? It's the other five. The amendment passes 6-5. Any objection to the passing of the rider as amended? Hearing none this passes as amended.

[8:01:11 PM]

>> Kitchen: I have a question. I was going to ask a question also, mayor.

[Echo on the line]. That's all right. I just wanted to be clear. So we didn't take it up as part of the dollar amount, but there are dollar amounts here. So this is now going in to our budget, and I can't do the math, but it's -- all of these are in light of the two ftes, is that correct?

>> Mayor Adler: It's already in the budget. Is that right?

>> Garza: I'm not sure, about but we separated the riders and the money.

>> It's already in the budget with the two ftes gone.

>> Kitchen: It's in the base motion is what you're saying?

>> Mayor Adler: Yes.

>> Kitchen: Okay, just double-checking. I didn't see it in the base motion.

>> I think it was like food --

[8:02:11 PM]

>> Kitchen: Food access, yes. It's here. Thank you.

>> Mayor Adler: Mayor pro tem.

>> Garza: The only thing I would ask, and I don't know if we have to take another vote. Fine if we do. In the line item and I feel like we need to be talking about this differently because there are two very different definition of food access and I would ask that it be changed to food and grocery access. From this point on.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Any objection where this is referenced in our budget to food and grocery access rather than just food access? Hearing none, if the scribners would make that adjustment in its

characterization that's also accepted by council. Ed, there was a question that was asked earlier to ensure that harper-madison's budget resolution one conformed to what else we

[8:03:11 PM]

were doing? If we make any changes where that no longer conformed can you conform budget rider one to the changes we make?

>> We can do that.

>> [Inaudible].

>> Mayor Adler: Thank you.

>> Mayor Adler: So the next one we have is.

-- It, Lou like it's Casar budget rider one.

>> Casar: Mayor, I'll move that. It is some folks said that the civil rights budget office was small, but with the new money overall it will be about a 1.9-million-dollar more operation, just making that

[8:04:12 PM]

public and clear. And making it clear the expectation is it enforces civil rights and labor standards in the community, and then also would be a holding place for retaliation, discrimination, harassment inside the city. Of course, it's a new director and the city manager, if they have any better idea for a separate place outside of hr to handle that, they can always come talk to us.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Is there any objection to this item being included in our package? City attorney?

>> I just wanted to make sure that you all are cognizant that the city charter has the municipal civil service program in it. It has been in place and it sets up how people make complaints and file grievances and that kind of thing. So that is already in our charter.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Does it conflict or is it

[8:05:13 PM]

just already there?

>> It's already in the charter about how to do it. I think that you would have the person that you have come in as the officer to look and see if there's something that could be done in addition to that.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. So that doesn't conflict. Councilmember pool.

>> Pool: I just want to make sure do we need to include that language in the rider? City attorney?

>> No, you don't need to include it.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Councilmember alter?

>> Alter: So it looks like it says that they should have an option outside of hr where they can file complaints. I don't think it precludes complaints coming up through hr. I think it's an additional place. Is that how I should be reading it?

>> Casar: I think that's the right way to read it,

[8:06:14 PM]

that's right.

>> Alter: Thank you.

>> Casar: Somebody asked the question if it's harassment or discrimination, in the report it says harassment, retaliation or discrimination, and we are talking about it all.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Any objections to this item being included? Hearing none, this item is included. I think that now gets us to kitchen budget rider number one. Councilmember kitchen.

>> Kitchen: Yeah, I'll move passage of this. I do want to speak to it for a moment.

>> Mayor Adler: Is there a second to kitchen budget rider one? Councilmember pool seconds it. Councilmember kitchen, go ahead.

>> Kitchen: Okay. This is the budget rider that provides direction on the first response to mental health calls for service program. It also relates to councilmember pool's budget rider that's already in the

[8:07:14 PM]

base motion that adds the additional community health paramedics. What the this rider does is it gives some direction. I think it's important to kind of quickly go through the direction for folks. So it -- it talks about executing a contract with a project manager and I want to add in here some language similar to what we did a minute ago. To execute a contract with a project manager from the meadow's institute, and if I must do this, from the meadow's institute or a similar entity, so implement the program. So can we reflect that adding that --

>> Mayor Adler: Yes.

[Indiscernible] The specific vendor, but saying a vendor, that or a similar vendor. Hearing none, that change is made.

>> Kitchen: Yes. And that's the meadows institute is the vendor.

[8:08:15 PM]

So this is really important part about this is because the program manager is someone who can implement this across the entities that are involved in this, and there is a deadline of October 1st for executing a contract with this project manager. The reason that that is important is because it's important to get this project manager in place immediately. So that the benefits of having that level of expertise for implementation can be in place. So there's a list of items that that project manager will be responsible for, and that includes things like analyzing data, setting an implementation schedule, establishing goals and reporting to council. There's long in here about our goal being establishing at the earliest state by which 100% of all calls with the mental health component, which do not pose a risk to

[8:09:16 PM]

public safety shall be diverted. There's a number of other things in here. Basically the point is that the project manager will help us optimize the program on a timely basis. So I also want to point out that the direction directs our partner agencies, including ems and Austin public health, to work with the program manager to develop and implement an appropriate approach for data collection and data analysis. I mention that specifically because it's going to be very important as we've seen already that we analyze how the success of this program and how it's proceeding and it be reported back. There's also language in here about prioritizing areas of Austin with the greatest overall need for such services.

[8:10:16 PM]

And outreach to these areas. And then there's also acknowledgment that this doubles the program that we have right now and in addition it references the seven community health paramedics in councilmember pool's amendment. It also recognizes that staffing levels will be analyzed throughout the course of this to determine if additional staffing is needed in the future to -- for full implementation of the program in reaching our goals. So thank you for bearing with me there. I wanted to go through this. I think it's important to point out the direction that's in here.

>> Flannigan: You're on mute, mayor.

>> Mayor Adler: Thank you, councilmember Flannigan.

>> Flannigan: Thank you. I don't believe that we can require a contract be

[8:11:16 PM]

executed by a certain date, but we don't need to get into that. We're going to have almost the entire public safety committee meeting on Monday dig into first responder response. I think we'll dig into a lot more detail on Monday.

>> Kitchen: Well, councilmember Flannigan, if I could speak to that. This program has come -- came out of the meadows report and there's a lot of things to talk about with regard to mental health, and I'm sure we'll have a good conversation at the public safety committee, but this deadline recognizes the importance of continuing with this program. It's already in operation. So I really don't want to be in a position where we're stepping backwards from the work that we've board done and I know that you don't intend to do that at all. So I'm just saying that that's why the deadline is in here. And the meadows report set out how this program should operate. It's already started. And it needs to-- I'm sorry,

[8:12:20 PM]

I'm just --

>> Mayor Adler: I'm not sure that I've heard anybody object to this rider going in. You object to this rider going?

>> Flannigan: No.

>> Mayor Adler: Done. This rider goes into our deal. Done. Kitchen budget rider number two, homeless housing investment. Are there any objection to this going in? Hearing none, kitchen budget rider two goes in. That gets us to Flannigan --

>> Kitchen: Mayor, please, may I speak to this? It's my rider.

>> Mayor Adler: Go ahead.

>> Kitchen: I think this is an important one to speak to because what we're doing as a council, and I want to make sure we do this deliberately, what we're doing is we are committing to an investment over the next two years in the minimum investment in homeless services that was recommended to us by the -- by the consultants in their report. So what it says is that we

[8:13:20 PM]

are committing as a council per the homeless working group recommendations a total investment increase of 22 million. And we're recognizing that that's what's needed over the next two fiscal years and I think it's important that we make that commitment at this point. I understand that from a legal perspective we will have to vote again on the

[indiscernible]. And in conjunction with councilmember Casar's amendment we are committing 6.5 of this 22 million now. I do -- I want to call to people's attention that we are committing to this. I think it's very important commitment for us as we move forward in addressing homelessness.

>> Mayor Adler: Anybody have any objection to including kitchen rider two? Hearing none, that's included. That gets us to.

>> Flannigan: Budget rider number one.

-- Flannigan budget rider

[8:14:22 PM]

number one. Emergency department communications. Councilmember Flannigan, I have a -- [overlapping speakers].

>> Flannigan: I can't hear the mayor.

>> Mayor Adler: Thank you. Councilmember Flannigan, I support this. I think it's a really -- this and our budget rider number two I think you're going to be really interesting conversations to have. I note that in our budget rider number two it says in this one it's a direction to develop a plan in the heading, but the first sentence says that it actually authorizes the creation, and I'm not sure we're ready to actually authorize the creation until we see the plan that's been developed, but my understanding is you wanted to make sure that this one came back more quickly than the other two, in your budget rider two, so I sure would be more comfortable if this directed the exploration of this, but directed staff to come back with this one most quickly and not wait for the others. If that would be something that would fit with you.

[8:15:24 PM]

Councilmember Flannigan.

>> Flannigan: I'll move by budget rider one with the change directs the exploration of. But I don't think that second change is necessary because I think it's built into the amendment.

>> Mayor Adler: Sounds good. Councilmember Flannigan offers Flannigan budget rider number one. The first sentence would say the city council directs the exploration of the creation of a non-sworn

department of emergency communications and technology. Any objection to this being included? Councilmember alter.

>> Alter: So if we say the amendment to it? Because I think it addresses one of my concerns. So I think this is a really promising idea, particularly for the emergency communications and technology, but there are other ideas that are out there with respect to forensics that we haven't explored that might add value in different ways. And I just don't want to

[8:16:26 PM]

preclude those -- say collaboration with the county in some way if it was found to be effective and maybe the county took over some of those costs since we're taking over lots of their other costs, or something that we wouldn't preclude that if those ideas surfaced and seemed from those who had the expertise and knowledge to be useful. And I think my sense is that as amended that allows that to happen, that exploration, if there are other ideas, even if this may be -- certainly one promising direction.

>> Mayor Adler: Councilmember Flannigan.

>> Flannigan: Yeah. I think I would agree with that, councilmember alter. And I think generally all of the riders have that overarching -- any rider that says come back with a plan, I think we're hoping for the best plan. And we'll have the ability to do the right thing then.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. With that understanding, any objection to Flannigan budget rider number one as onl amended going in?

[8:17:28 PM]

Hearing none, that goes in. Let's go to the next one. This is Flannigan budget rider two. New sworn departments. Any objection to this going in? Councilmember alter.

>> Alter: So again, I appreciate that it's exploring. I wonder if the manager could speak to this. I'm a little bit concerned that some of these items might take us away from other things that we've asked them to do and how we juggle things with respect to priorities that we're putting forward to this task force that's working on so many different issues. So I don't know if there are any additional insights or do you just interpret this as something you just explore or does it have a lot of extra work attached to it?

>> Councilmembers, we look at it as something that really is creative and innovative, something to explore as we're doing our work. I think as new ideas, as the

[8:18:31 PM]

city community task force starts to be convened and ideas are explored that by then as we continue to work really in closer concert with the public safety committee, I think ideas will alight from that. And I believe we're able to talk through that and see what happens. But there's some really great innovation as we look through it, so we wouldn't want to not consider and we want to be able to be as broad as we can as we move forward. But our commitment is to work with the chair and all the members of the safety committee as we move this forward and are really open to explore anything. As the manager said at some point nothing is off our table so we will lead into any idea that comes our way.

>> Alter: I appreciate that and what's in this amendment and the ideas that are there and hope that we can continue to do since June of iterating and looking at things differently as we need to

[8:19:32 PM]

and adjusting because I think that there's some opportunity in there, but there's a lot of unexplored issues that I want to make sure that we take into consideration if we move forward in that direction.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Any objection to Flannigan budget riders two going in? Councilmember Casar and then

[indiscernible].

>> I did voice my support and I asked or wrote the manager should consider internal affairs and special investigations unit with extra flexibility on where they land in the organizational structure given their sort of unique nature in providing internal accountability. I think that -- I don't think I have to add that language. I think that that makes sense given the conversation we've had tonight, but I just wanted to confirm that I don't think we need to change anything, but I just wanted to express that because those are so unique

[8:20:32 PM]

in providing that internal accountability.

>> Mayor Adler: Thank you. Any objection to Flannigan rider two. Councilmember tovo, I'm sorry, go ahead.

>> Tovo: Thank you. I distributed an amendment to councilmember Flannigan. I just want to note that councilmember harper-madison's budget direction includes something about police headquarters, about the building being hold, significant deferred maintenance --

>> Mayor Adler: Kathie, hang on a second. Did we put in budget rider two yet? I am not sure we did. Flannigan budget amendments number two is in. Now we go to Flannigan budget rider number three that deals with the APD location. Councilmember Tovo, now go ahead.

>> Tovo: So councilmember Harper-Madison's discussion of this talks about looking at three different options, relocating, selling or

[8:21:35 PM]

alternatively using the present Austin police department headquarters location. So it's slightly different in direction than yours, councilmember Flannigan. And I certainly could support and just did in councilmember Harper-Madison's the exploration of relocating out of the headquarters, but would ask that -- I'm not sure if you had an opportunity to look over my proposed amendments and if you can accept those as friendly. I'm happy to discuss that.

>> Flannigan: Mayor?

>> Mayor Adler: Yes, councilmember Flannigan.

>> Flannigan: So councilmember Tovo, did you say -- maybe this is a question for councilmember Harper-Madison. Did I miss in another budget rider a reference about the headquarters?

>> Mayor Adler: Yes.

>> Flannigan: Where is that?

>> Mayor Adler: Budget rider number one Harper-Madison, she had in E, 5e, so there would have

[8:22:38 PM]

been on the first page of the budget riders. It didn't change in the amendment as originally contained. Police headquarters.

>> Flannigan: Okay.

>> If I may for what it's worth, my -- the inclusion on my end was not an intention to preempt this item. I'm happy to make whatever adjustment we need to make to move forward with councilmember Flannigan's item. I'm comfortable moving forward with that. If we need a few minutes to make adjustments with language, I'm happy to do that.

>> Flannigan: Thank you, councilmember Harper-Madison. I think that the two items are compatible, but there's a little bit of extra intention in the proposal that I've posted, so I think that's probably value in adopting both. Councilmember Tovo, I'm looking for your amendment. Did you post it to the

[8:23:38 PM]

message board?

>> Tovo: I believe my staff did. We also, Katie powers, distributed it before dinner and I will get you a time on that when I can find my document.

>> Flannigan: Okay. I think I found it. Too many tabs. Too many tabs that are open. So if I'm reading the same amendment you've got, there's two additional paragraphs that you're proposing be added, is that right, sir?

>> That's correct. And it breaks one of your paragraphs down. So that's not a substantial change, I just wanted to point out because there's no easy way to reflect it in my edits. So you first. Mr. Flannigan laugh.

>> Flannigan: Yeah, breaking down a paragraph is non-substantive. So I think the two paragraphs are substantially different for me. I need to talk about them separately is what I mean.

[8:24:39 PM]

I think the first one talking about ensuring public safety coverage in the downtown area, I see everything that we're doing today as a commitment to ensure public safety in the entire city. I don't know that it needs to be called out so specifically in this rider, but I don't think it's substantively different from anything else, although you are adding a direction, further direction to combine police department, fire department and other downtown resources into a single location. And I don't knee Z that as substantive to -- I don't see that as substantive to my amendment. So that's the first question. And then I have an objection to the second paragraph.

>> Tovo: So let's if we could talk about them. Number one, in terms of the third paragraph that I've added, the first paragraph I've added a third paragraph in the proposed amended version. I just want to note the language says, is further directed to analyze the potential. It's not directing the

[8:25:42 PM]

co-location of those functions, but as you probably remember when we passed the brush square master plan there was additional language. I think the mayor, you brought it forward to look at the possibility of relocating the fire department. And so if the headquarters is to move -- if APD headquarters moves out of downtown my assumption is likely we would still need a station in the downtown area for our police, a substation of some sort. I'm not sure whether that was part of your intention or not, but I think that certainly that needs to be a consideration. And so this language asks the manager to consider as the manager is currently considering different opportunities for ems and fire to consider whether a co-

location with pice in the downtown area makes sense. The second paragraph -- again, I want to emphasize I'm not sure what your concerns are there, but this

[8:26:43 PM]

is in the area of the palm district, which we initiated a planning initiative around. And so --

>> Mayor Adler: Let's hold off a second and do then one at a time. As for the third paragraph where councilmember tovo is also asking for an analysis of co-location. Is there any objection to that inclusion?

>> Flannigan: I'm fine with that, mayor, since, as councilmember tovo said, further directed to analyze is very much similar to explore, as we've used elsewhere in our riders today and it seems compliant with the direction we've already done in the past. So duplicative at best, but I'm fine with it.

>> Any objection to it being included? Hearing none, that fourth paragraph is now included.

>> Mayor Adler: Now let's go to the fifth paragraph. Councilmember tovo. Explain and then Mr. Flannigan can reapply. Go ahead, councilmember tovo.

>> Tovo: And I don't know whether it makes sense to hear councilmember Flannigan's concerns about it first, but let me back up

[8:27:43 PM]

and talk a little bit about why I'm suggesting including it. As you all remember we initiated the palm district planning initiative. It was called something different, but I appreciate and applaud the parks department moving away from using the paramaster plan so it's now the palm district planning initiative. Social security in this immediate vicinity so this is, as the language states, it's not an attempt to supplant in any way the planning process that your budget rider is initiating, councilmember Flannigan. But it would make the resources of the process available to that planning group since it is physically -- since it's in the same physical haven't, it would make sense to make sure that those processes are important for each other. And the Rudat, I've forgotten what it stages for, regional design assistance team program, in

[8:28:43 PM]

our big omnibus palm district am any bus we asked the city to go forward and apply for that funding and that technical assistance and received it. So it's a bit off track because of covid, but that's a community-based engagement process to talk to stakeholders about what their hopes and dreams and thoughts and ideas are for the revisioning of that area. And so again, it's not intended to take the place of the

process you're talking about to really look in a focused way about what the intent is and what the community vision is for the APD headquarters, but it is what an attempt to make sure that those -- that learning is being fed back into the palm district planning initiative. Which is immediately adjacent. It's all the same area.

>> Mayor Adler: Councilmember Flannigan.

>> Flannigan: So I don't believe that it is in the same area. It's several blocks away from where the palm district has been defined thus far.

[8:29:46 PM]

And I think -- I would worry about mixing and matching these things because as you have said the intention is very different and that is not -- that is a very substantive part of my budget rider is I'm not wanting to see these things get confused. Also as a practical matter, it is going to take significant time for the headquarters to be reimagined into something different between the staff that is currently there and the future I-35 construction and the Waterloo greenway. There's a lot of moving a parts here. I don't want to mix and match things. But given that the headquarters' proposal is one that will take time, I don't know that we need this paragraph right now. And we can consider if we want to include it in that at a later time, but it would be my preference to at least have the hq process have a little bit of can community engagement before we decide if it needs to intersect with the palm school district work.

[8:30:48 PM]

>> Tovo: Okay. Just as a point of clarity we did extend the palm district immediate vicinity is in the area of the convention center, but there were also -- there was also language that it extended it through areas of the Waterloo greenway up north. So you know, again, I think it would make sense since we are planning this area to make sure that the findings and the work of the APD headquarters are an informing process immediately to its southern boundaries. I'm not sure I understand

[indiscernible]. But certainly it could happen at a later point. So if there are considerable objections, I'll withdraw it. Again, I think it would help -- I think it would provide some technical since tense that would be of value.

>> And if I could just add the map that I've seen related to the palm school or the palm district actually identifies this area as the red river

[8:31:48 PM]

cultural district and I don't think those overlap. I think that they connect at some point. So I think there is some debate about whether or not this falls into what?

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Further discussion on this item? Councilmember tovo.

>> Tovo: I would be interested in hearing other thoughts on it. It's -- again, I think we need to make sure as we're doing efforts that they are informing one another. If there are concerns about it I'm happy to just withdraw it. I don't know whether that is a sentiment shared with other colleagues, but I don't think it's -- I think we very often go forward with elements that ought to be informing and connected and especially in areas where we haven't always brought many voices to the table. I think it would be important for the work of

[8:32:53 PM]

the APD headquarters to inform the other process.

>> Mayor Adler: Councilmember pool.

>> Pool: Does it harm the informing of the issue to have a wider ring? I seem to be losing my voice. But does it do harm because it seems to me that it adds to the possibilities, which could be it.

>> Mayor Adler: Councilmember kitchen.

>> Kitchen: Yes, I don't know if councilmember pool's question was answered or if she was directing it somewhere, but I would say the same. It seems like we -- aren't we all saying the same thing? That what councilmember tovo is suggesting would be important to the process? I guess that question is for councilmember tovo or

[8:33:54 PM]

councilmember Flannigan.

>> Flannigan: I have said that I am concerned about adding this to the palm district work because my intention with the rider is not accidental. It's focused on specific-- addressing specific issues that are not part of the palm district work, and because of the timeline of the hq, the necessary pragmatic timeline of the hq, I don't see any reason why we have to make that decision now.

>> Tovo: I'm just going to

[indiscernible].

>> Mayor Adler: As I look -- help me on this, councilmember tovo.

>> Flannigan: She withdrew it, mayor.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. I would also point out that I think that, councilmember tovo, that the palm district context map allows for the palm district to consider properties both within the range, and I think just south, but also it specifically says that if they want to engage in

[8:34:56 PM]

properties just outside of the boundary they can do that. So there's a specific --

[indiscernible].

>> Tovo: It does, yeah. It doesn't preclude -- it does not preclude -- none of this inclusion of this point doesn't include the palm district planning initiative to consider what's going on in the red river cultural district. In fact, it will and has already been. It's just -- this is my district so I'm pretty familiar with the conversations going on around. So I don't think it's necessary from the point of the palm district planning initiative that this language be in here. I just -- I do think it's important that that process be undertaken in a way that understands that this other work is going on with the headquarters. It's not worth having a discussion about.

>> Mayor Adler: That gets us to a vote then on Flannigan budget rider three. Is there objection to three

[8:35:56 PM]

being included? Councilmember alter.

>> Alter: So I would like to understand the first sentence because it is very different from the direction Ta I fully supported in budget rider one. So this is saying that they have to relocate all the staff from the properties where APD headquarters currently sits and put them into underutilized city facilities. I would be much more comfortable if we took that sentence out. I think there was language that I was much more comfortable with in the budget rider one that recognized that we had a substandard building and we needed to take care of folks, but I think this is -- we have plans for one Texas center, we have plans for Austin energy and this

[8:36:57 PM]

is mixing up a lot of other things. And I believe -- I don't have -- let me see if I can find what was said in budget rider one. I know you didn't initially catch that. , Councilmember Flannigan, but it -- it says --

>> Tovo: Councilmember alter, it's --

>> On page three, moving police from its present headquarters has been long discussed as the building is old and has significant deferred maintenance. Our city employees deserve and should have better. In a developing downtown and adjacent to the water lake greenway this location may well have a better and higher use. We should consider -- I don't know where it went. Relocating selling alternatively using the present police department headquarters location. I am way more comfortable

[8:38:00 PM]

with that language than just flat out saying we have to relocate all the staff to specific locations.

>> Mayor Adler: So the question is you want to relocate -- the direction is you want to relocate the employees or polar the relocation of all the employees?

-- Explore the relocation of all the employees?

>> Flannigan: The point of my language is that the building is dilapidated now and the staff who is there now needs to not be there now. Much in the same way that we expedited the moving of the municipal court because of sewage and other things in the building. I know building services does their best to keep it under control, but nonetheless that building

[8:39:00 PM]

has been a problem for more than a decade and I don't see any reason why we have to explore that staff needs to move. The staff should just be moved.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Any further discussion on this item? Any objection to this?

>> Kitchen: Mayor, I had my hand up.

>> Mayor Adler: Sorry, councilmember kitchen.

>> Kitchen: So I hear what you're saying, councilmember Flannigan. I think that maybe I'm just -- I'm not real clear what directed to relocate really means in terms of timeline or the discretion about where they might move. So that's what's concerning me about the language. So I would feel more comfortable if we just acknowledge that that's not something that we say today and it happens tomorrow. Maybe we say as soon as possible, maybe we say come

[8:40:02 PM]

back to us by a certain date, explain how that's going to happen or something like that. I'm just reacting to it. I'm -- my concern is similar to what councilmember alter raised. So I just would suggest some

language that allows for some flexibility put in place, some dates and deadlines around the urgency that you're feeling.

>> Flannigan: I struggle with simultaneously wanting flexibility and a deadline. The way it's written, obviously the manager can't move the staff if there's nowhere appropriate for them to go. It just says you should do it. But it doesn't mean that the manager is going to put them in tents in Zilker park. Right? I mean, I think it's very

[8:41:03 PM]

straightforward.

>> Mayor Adler: Councilmember Ellis.

>> Ellis: I definitely appreciate the need for us to kind of have clarity on what's going to happen, but I just don't know that I recall [indiscernible] Short of a real estate transaction or some sort of other larging planning initiative. So I sort of worry about starrng to have it here where we're saying these police have to go here. And maybe that's something that council has done and a concerted effort in the past, but I just am not familiar with the process of us micromanaging the way that our directives are carried out to this particular issue. I don't need an answer to that. That's not really a question, but that's my thought process.

>> Mayor Adler: We have a budget rider in front of us that's been moved and seconded. Any discussion? Any amendments? Councilmember Alter.

[8:42:06 PM]

>> Alter: So I think this is addressed well in budget rider one from Parker Madison, so I would propose that we delete that first sentence and I think the same sentiment is captured in there about needing to move them for all the reasons that councilmember Flannigan said, but without all the prescription about how it has to happen and going to other city facilities, etcetera.

>> Mayor Adler: Councilmember Alter moves to strike the first sentence of Flannigan budget rider three. Is there a second to that? Councilmember Pool seconds that. Any discussion on the motion to strike the first sentence? Okay. Let's take a vote. Those in favor of striking the first sentence please raise your hand? I have Tovo, Pool, Kitchen and Alter. Those opposed? The balance of the dais. Any further discussions on

[8:43:06 PM]

budget rider three. Any objection to budget rider three being included? Budget rider three is included. Let's go to the next item. Ellis two on park rangers.

>> Ellis: Would you like me to lay it out? I wasn't sure what process we were doing.

>> Mayor Adler: Let's see. This is --

>> Ellis: This is for the park rangers.

>> Mayor Adler: This is asking for a plan, how this would take place. The plan in question?

>> Ellis: Yeah. This kind of sets us up for reimagining public safety. We've been talking to the parks and recreation department and with afsome and some of the park rangers to reimagine park policing in a way that utilizes park rangers as a better career path for programs like leave no trace, monitoring glass containers, citation powers

[8:44:07 PM]

for public intoxication and a couple of the other things that park rangers would need training for. So instead of trying to fund it immediately in an effort, we wanted to have a space for it in the reimagining public safety.

>> Mayor Adler: Any objection to staff considering this in their planning? Hearing none, this rider is included. Let's go to Ellis number four, clean creeks crew. Yes. And this one does pertain to the clean community fee, but because it does not propose a change in the fee, I figure it was germane to our conversation to have it in with this section. And it basically lays out a good plan for collaborating between watershed protection department and Austin resource recovery to do some litter abatement in the creeks themselves. Through some of the initiatives that I've led over the past year, this is necessary and the departments have been really helpful in getting us to a place that we feel really good with the work that can

[8:45:08 PM]

come out of it. But it is funded through

[indiscernible] And I appreciate my co-sponsors being on it with me.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Any objection to this one being included? Hearing none, it is also included. Councilmember kitchen?

>> Kitchen: I just have a question. And thank you, councilmember Ellis. I think this is really helpful, really useful. So I know it's going to be very beneficial. So my question just is it doesn't have an additional dollar amount, is that correct? So this is something they feel like they would do within existing resources with the clean community fee?

>> Ellis: Correct.

>> Kitchen: Okay. Is there any concern about them pulling away from other activities? I wanted to understand a little bit better? Is it just reorganizing how they're doing it?

>> It is. And it will be advised by the work of watershed protection because they can help direct where the

[8:46:09 PM]

resource discovery and clean creeks crew would need to be. But toward the end of our last council meetings resource recovery had found places that they wanted to utilize that so that they could be maintaining that service through the end of the fiscal year. So this is kind of our reprogramming with direction from the clean creeks resolution from last January and just kind of better calibrates where they want that attention to be focused. So it won't be minimizing service elsewhere. It's just a more appropriate use for the council adopted plans of the clean creeks initiative.

>> Kitchen: Okay, thank you.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Any objection to this one going in? All right. Budget rider two or four on the clean creeks crew from Ellis goes in. Colleagues, we've had a request that we take here a 10-minute recess. Without objection -- councilmember pool.

>> Pool: I had one item

[8:47:10 PM]

from budget direction to add in that didn't get submitted to staff because we were just focused on the money buns ones. So I have one rider.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay.

>> Pool: With direction.

>> Mayor Adler: All right. Publish that or post that during this 10 minute break, and that would be break. We still have four more. Tovo has one, alter has three and then we'll come back. If you would post that one too, councilmember pool, so we could see it. It is 8:47. We will come back at 8:57. 10-minute break.

[8:58:32 PM]

>> Mayor Adler: Yes, council member kitchen?

>> Kitchen: You know, I would suggest that we wrap up. There's no -- we're not going to be able to finish everything tonight, I don't think, so -- and I don't see any reason to rush through. So --

>> Mayor Adler: I don't know, I think we're all but finished, we should stay here and certainly at least finish that council member pool?

>> Pool: I don't have much voice left. Did you say just finish up the riders, then we can recess till tomorrow?

>> Mayor Adler: I think we can finish the budget. There's only, like, four things left. I'm not sure there's any disagreement with any of them. So I would say we should at least finish up the budget, and then, you know, we can see if any -- you know, if anybody wants to -- what the decision is then. But we're real close. Does anybody have any

[8:59:33 PM]

objection to the remaining four budget riders?

[Indiscernible] Program, ability services officer, workforce development budget rider?

>> Pool: I have a rider. It was posted on the message board.

>> Mayor Adler: And then what's your rider? So there re no objections to those four, those can go in? Council member

[indiscernible] -- Sorry. Let's do this tovo budget rider number 1, it was a residency incentive study. Does anybody have any objection to that? Council member Flannigan.

>> Flannigan: Yeah, my recollection is that this has been looked at in the past, although, I mean, I imagine, council member tovo, you might be the expert on that. But it seems like this has been a recurring conversation about residency of officers.

[9:00:33 PM]

Has this not been studied before?

>> Tovo: So it is an idea that has been contemplated before. I know council member Houston and I both brought it up at the time. Not that we were doing the big contract negotiation, but we made a smaller amendment, I think, a year or two prior. And actually, as part of that amendment process, it was put into the contract with officers to allow for a residency incentive program. And so this seems -- you know, several community members, even today and in other conversations, have talked about the value of having more officers live within the city of Austin, and based on my research and the research of my office, I think that it's definitely an idea worth exploring. So it's not -- there has not, that I'm aware of, in

recent history, been any kind of a study. What we did was, the only action the council has done is to make it possible for residency to be incentivized.

[9:01:34 PM]

There has not been any further effort since then. And in talking with my -- my office has wording with -- has had some conversations and has talked with

[indiscernible] And others about how we might approach even thinking through that conversation. And this seemed to be the best -- the best first step to really looking at -- talking to officers who live within the city of Austin, talking to officers who do not, which is most of the police force, about 24% of our police force resides within the city of Austin limits, the rest do not. And this would be the first step of really just getting -- getting some basic information that would inform whether or not we want to move forward and try to develop a residency program.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Any objection to this rider going in? Council member Flannigan objects. Is there a second to tovo budget rider

[9:02:35 PM]

[indiscernible] -- Is there a second? Council member alter seconds it.

>> Can I ask what substance of the objection is? Can I ask what the substance of the objection is so I can help answer, or --

>> Flannigan: Yes. I don't believe that it works, based on my own research, and unless we're talking about an incentive program that would pay officers more to live in specific neighborhoods, I think you would end up having officers living in my district or in council member Ellis's district, which I don't think is the intention. I'm uncomfortable with studies that talk about paying officers more, in voting on that today.

>> Tovo: I want to be really clear about what this does or does not do. It's not initiating any kind of incentive program, it's initiating conversations around --

>> Mayor Adler: Would everyone please mute their phone?

>> Tovo: Let me repeat that because I think it's extremely important to correct what you just said. This in no way is

[9:03:35 PM]

initiating a residency program today or initiating a program that would pay officers more to live within the city of Austin. What it would be doing is initiating a series of conversations with officers and with others around the question of residency to get some information about what determines choices, about residency, and also to do some additional -- additional research about what these programs would look like in other areas and whether they've been effective. And I think that's responsive to some of the community requests, over time, but also in the last couple months, the community -- some of the community suggestions, that looking at having more officers live within the city of Austin would also be of value.

>> Flannigan: You're on mute, mayor.

>> Mayor Adler: I was going to say I'm fine with this, since it's just a study to look at

[9:04:35 PM]

it. Is there any further discussion before we vote? Council member kitchen?

>> Kitchen: I think -- well, I'm a bit uncomfortable with it also, but I recognize that it's just a study. I'm a bit uncomfortable because I don't want to create an atmosphere where we have made a judgment that the -- that there's something wrong with officers if they don't live in the city. And that's some of the -- sometimes I hear some conversation to that effect. And I don't -- I wouldn't want to go into this with the presumption one way or the other. I'm fine, you know, listening, but I don't want this to be taken as a presumption that -- that -- there are a lot of reasons why officers may need to live in other places or may choose to live in other places. So I would not want this to be taken as a

[9:05:37 PM]

reflection on -- Navy reflection in any way for officers who do not live in the city.

>> Mayor Adler: Mayor pro tem Garza.

>> Garza: Yeah, this has come up with the past, and I have -- I have a lot of mixed feelings about it because I feel like it -- I totally understand this is just a study, but I -- like, it's a slippery slope of -- are we going to do this for fire? Are we going to do this for EMS? Where does it stop within the city? And just my experience in public safety, most of the time people moved out was because when they started to have children and child care was so expensive, they could move somewhere else and the partner could stay home, and so I just -- it makes me nervous to be making -- creating an incentive for -- I

[9:06:37 PM]

understand exactly why, I get it, it just makes me nervous when we're telling people where they can or can't -- or where they should or shouldn't move. And I know that's not what your saying and I know it's just a study. Those are just my concerns.

>> Tovo: Mayor, if I may, I want to underscore something council member kitchen said. I think it's important that we -- I'd appreciate your comments about us not making a judgment about whether or not it's best to live within the city or without, outside the city or whether it makes an impact. This is -- I just want to point out, this does align with the recommendations in president Obama's task force on 21st century policing. Because it is a conversation that has come up and the community has asked us to explore a few times in the past four or five years, it does seem to me appropriate to -- again, we're not initiating

[9:07:39 PM]

expensive consultants or an expensive analysis, we're really just asking -- asking for a series of conversations, to kind of better understand how our officers are making some of those choices so that we can understand whether it's something we want to explore further. So I sure would appreciate my colleagues' willingness to consider taking this to the next step of really just beginning that conversation. And thanks to my co-sponsors, mayor Adler and council member harper-madison. I appreciate your support on this.

>> Mayor Adler: Further discussion? Mayor pro tem Garza.

>> Garza: I was just going to say, I could support it if it's direction to direct our city manager to have that conversation in the next labor negotiation, but I feel like that's -- that's where we talk about incentive pays, is

[9:08:40 PM]

labor negotiations. It doesn't get talked up -- about usually outside of it. And I know we're doing things different, but still, that's -- their pay is in the realm of labor negotiations, so just -- that's where I'm coming from.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay.

>> Tovo: Mayor pro tem Garza, if we already have that conversation and it already exists within the contract as an option, we don't -- we have not, though, had those conversations about what -- whether it's even worth taking further in terms of a conversation about if it's a direction we want to explore in the city. But we did have that conversation in our labor negotiations, and it does exist as an option. As a result of this, as a result of, frankly, council direction, that those conversations be undertaken.

>> Garza: I don't know what that means, it exists as an option. They can -- they can -- what's the option?

>> Tovo: So it's -- it is my understanding, and

[9:09:41 PM]

it's been a while since we talked about it, but it was -- early on in our 10-1 council, there was an amendment that needed to be made to the A.P.D. To the did the to the A.P.D. Contract, if I'm remembering correctly, I don't know if someone could fill in the gaps, but we had had a conversation about wanting to be able to explore this idea of residency incentive programs. And so it was added to the contract as an option. And so, again, this -- what is before us today is really just saying, staff, please go forward and have conversations, not about what a program would look like or, you know, in some areas it is -- there's -- there's not extra pay, it's structured differently, but -- so it's not looking even at -- I mean, my direct budget direction is not even asking the staff to come bag with the on us of a outlines of

[9:10:45 PM]

a program or anything like that. It's just asking our staff to have some initial conversations with people -- with officers who of made the choice to live within the city and why, and what their experience has been, those who have lives outside of the city of Austin, and, you know, the same series of questions. We have worked with

[indiscernible] Muscadin, it's my understanding, I don't want to speak with that office, but they seemed enthusiastic about the idea of a study or an exploration of this sort. Again, I would leave it to them to confirm that my impressions of that were accurate, but it was -- you know, when we asked -- when we asked them for some suggestions, this is sort of where we landed in terms of having that conversation.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Let's go ahead and take a vote. Those in favor of this rider, please raise your hand. It is tovo, me, Renteria, pool, alter. Those opposed? One, two,

[9:11:51 PM]

three, four, five. Council member harper-madison, I didn't see how you were voting.

>> Alter: , Mayor, since she was a co-sponsor, maybe we could wait to see how she's voting. My guess is she got pulled away with her kids and is not back yet.

>> Mayor Adler: We'll wait on that to vote to make sure the whole dais has a chance to vote.

[Indiscernible] Rider number one, multifamily discount program, any objection to that being included? Hearing none, that's included.

>> Alter: May I just speak to it?

>> Mayor Adler: Alter budget rider two?

>> Alter: May I just speak to both of those then? First one, Austin water multifamily discount

[9:12:51 PM]

program, we've been working with Austin water to see how we can reach folks who are receiving the discounts through the ae cap program but are not currently receiving discounts through Austin water because there's differences between how electricity and water are metered for the multifamily dwellings. And there's about 10,000 units that they are anticipating that fall in this category. And so this is just directing them to go forward with that work and make sure that they come back with a fee adjustment and not waiting until the next budget cycle to do that. And we're expecting they'll be able to again that in January, probably. There were no objections to that one. I'll just mention, the other one is related to the mobility services officers' employee classification. So to keep moving forward with the mobility officers' pilot, which would be taking over some of the traffic and parking issues that we've

[9:13:52 PM]

been talking about wanting to take off of the hands of A.P.D., we funded earlier in the base budget a classification study which has to happen to move forward. This is saying that that classification has to be adopted into our system, and then asking them to come back with the mechanism to fund the appropriate ftes, which would likely be through parking fees, once that is revived post-covid. But it doesn't tell them how to do the funding, et cetera.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Any objection to alter budget rider number 2? Hearing none, that one is in as well. Alter budget rider number 3. Workforce development.

>> Alter: Yeah, the service one is really just directing the city manager to ensure that workforce development is part of our continued response to covid and asking him to partner with Travis county and

[9:14:52 PM]

other government nonprofit entities to further advance and fund the make it now initiative.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Any objection to this one going in? Council member Flannigan?

>> Flannigan: No objection, but I would like to add -- well, you know -- you have it in there so I'll just make a comment, that -- that Williamson county is an important area for workforce training as well, as are the surrounding counties, there are two workforce boards, urban, Travis county, and the rural, which is actually a lot of urbanized area on the outside. Reading eight second time, council member -- reading it a second time, it's in there. Thank you.

>> Alter: As mayor Adler has led with in his work on workforce, there's a lot of opportunity for regional cooperation in these endeavors.

>> Flannigan: And serving as chair of the economic developed board, I get to

[9:15:53 PM]

serve with a lot of those folks too, so I'm happy to work with you moving this forward.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay.

>> Alter: Mayor, I also have an amendment, the office of the chief medical officer.

>> Mayor Adler: We haven't got to those yet. We're going to get to the related amendments in just a second. Without objection to alter budget rider 3, that'll go in. That one goes in. Any other riders? Council member pool, did you have one? Then council member Ellis we'll go to next.

>> Ellis: I did see that council member harper-madison's ice posted a budget to the message board just a couple minutes ago so I just wanted to flag that since she wasn't here.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. I think she's going to be bringing that in just a moment. Council member pool?

>> Pool: Thanks. My staff put this budget direction upon the message board, A.P.D.

[Indiscernible] Staff is directed to explore the proper use of animals in police work, in the

[9:16:53 PM]

context of the overarching reimagining public safety initiative, and include input from stakeholders in our community.

>> Mayor Adler: I'm sorry, council member pool, what does this do?

>> Pool: Budget direction, directing staff to explore the proper use of animals in police work in the context of the overarching reimagining public safety initiative.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay.

>> Pool: Get input from stakeholders. This is specific to the mounted patrol and the k-9 unit.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Anybody have any objection to that going in? Hearing none, that goes in. Council member harper-madison, do you have one you want to introduce?

[9:17:58 PM]

You're on mute. You're muted.

>> Harper-madison: I said thank y'all for your patience. I'm a tiny bit under the weather so I'm struggling. So, yes. And we brought it to the message -- oh, I'm sorry, you'll have to give me a minute.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay.

>> Kitchen: Mayor?

>> Mayor Adler: Yes?

>> Kitchen: I would like to suggest that we wrap up soon. Lots of people are fired and not feeling well and there's just no reason to rush through this. So I'm hoping that we could perhaps do that.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. My sense is, I'm going to give council member harper-madison a chance to come back. The only thing we have -- we have three things left, and then we could vote on the budget.

>> Kitchen: Mayor, I understand that, but she is obviously not feeling well and there are others that are tired. I don't understand why we

[9:18:58 PM]

have to proceed.

>> Mayor Adler: She texted me and said she wanted to offer a rider, so council member harper-madison, do you want to do this now?

>> Harper-madison: I do. Yeah. I'd like to get through this tonight if we can. Thank you for your advocacy, though, council member kitchen. I do appreciate it. So my office brought one forward. It's going to be on the -- on the message board.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay.

>> Harper-madison: It's a rider about the liability reserve fund. Would you like for me to lay it out? Or are there any particular questions?

>> Mayor Adler: Let's take a look at it. It's to direct the city manager to develop process --

>> Harper-madison: To involve the police department in the dispersion of liability reserve funds for police-related settlements.

>> Mayor Adler: Uh-huh.

>> Harper-madison: This process shall require that the department

[9:19:58 PM]

explain to council why the settlement is appropriate and present policy and operational changes the department will implement to ensure that a similar event will not reoccur. This new process should be developed with the intent to increase departmental understanding of the amount police-related lawsuits are costing the city and to publicly provide details on how they will reduce liability risks. Furthermore, as a part of the reimagining public safety process, staff is directed to provide additional recommendations, including, but not limited to, actions regarding how to fund expenditures related to misconduct outside of general taxpayer funds, increased financial accountability within the police department, and among individual officers, removing the police department from the liability reserve fund, and requiring litigation and settlement fees be paid from the

[9:20:59 PM]

police operational budget and exhausted before additional funds are approved; the timely distribution of settlement funds, and lastly, reducing overall police-related liability risks.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Is there any objection to that rider being included? Mayor pro tem Garza?

>> Garza: I absolutely understand the intent of this. I just think there are some unintended consequences that make me a little nervous. I also think, just reading this, just now, having the department explain to council why settlement is appropriate, it's usually the council that determines if the settlement is appropriate, and it's the law department -- it's in conjunction with our lawyers and counsel determining what's appropriate. So that sentence is not

[9:21:59 PM]

something that functionally happens. And I'm just a little concerned, you know, having been in executive session and not saying what happens in there, but to set an arbitrary limit in these discussions, you know, we just talked about the budget reserve and people were saying I don't want to go -- I don't want to go past the budget reserve, and many of these settlements are -- we're paying families for losing -- I don't want to see many, but the controversial ones are, we're paying families for losing a loved one. And these are really high-dollar settlements. So I don't know how -- I get it, I think it's great, that we should have our department say why did this happen and tell us how it's not going to happen again. And I feel like we've addressed those in our push to zero racial disparities and zero use of force and all those

[9:23:00 PM]

kinds of things. But this one just makes me nervous, and in the unintended -- the instance where the money can't be found and a family doesn't get what is the appropriate -- and it's the council that decides what's appropriate. If the police department is deciding what's appropriate, I think we might be in trouble. So those are just my concerns and why I can't support it. But I love the idea behind it and the -- and what -- what is trying to be done.

>> Mayor Adler: Council member harper-madison.

>> Harper-madison: I just wanted to make sure to point out that this is different from the other item. This item doesn't have that arbitrary limit.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Council member Casar?

>> Casar: I was just going to say, given that it doesn't have that

[9:24:00 PM]

limit, I'm all right. I don't know if the mayor pro tem's issues could be solved if we got rid of the department to explain to council why the settlement is appropriate. Because I think that's the only section that -- that seems to potentially present that issue.

>> Garza: Yeah, I was just trying to read that, and I thought maybe --

>> Casar: If we just cut the words --

>> Garza: Actually, if the entire second sentence comes out, so it's just the first sentence and the third sentence, and then the other stuff is about just additional recommendations. So I could be -- I could be okay with that. I still have concerns about removing them from the liability reserve, and then they have to dig into their budget before they can -- because that does set a limit on what settlements can be, because they would be limited by their budget.

[9:25:00 PM]

So --

>> Mayor Adler: So as I read this, it's just asking for developing a process and it's asking staff to -- to provide recommendations. Council member harper-madison, are you okay taking out the line that just has the department explaining why the settlement is appropriate? Is there any objection to taking that out? Hearing none, that part is taken out. Council member kitchen? Then council member Flannigan.

>> Kitchen: Well, I have -- I think I agree with the intent, which, if I'm understanding it correctly, it's to come up with some process that would increase accountability within the police department. So I'm fine with that intent, if that's -- you know, if that's the underlying intent of this. But I am concerned a bit about -- the same thing the mayor pro tem is, I'm

[9:26:01 PM]

just thinking from a legal perspective, I'm not sure that -- I'm concerned about having them involved in the dispersion of liability reserves funds. I'm not sure if that's the way it really needs to work from a settlement process perspective. I have some concerns about requiring litigation and settlement fees be from an operational budget. Might be a good idea, but I wouldn't want to direct it. The way it's written, it says directed to provide -- I would want to give more flexibility. I'd want it to be considered, perhaps, but that one causes me some concern also. I see the police department's role -- we want to hold them accountable, and if there's attempt to do that from a financial perspective, there may be ways to do that, but there are -- there are processes related to, you know, a court case and a settlement that I think we need to be careful

[9:27:03 PM]

with, and I also understand what mayor pro tem is saying in regards to who the settlements are being paid to. That's an important part of the process. So I guess I might specifically suggest that -- I would just start with, this new process should be developed, and say something like a new process should be developed with the intent to increase departmental understanding, and go on from there. And then, furthermore, as part of this process, staff is directed to consider recommendations, including, but not limited to. Would that be acceptable, council member harper-madison?

>> Harper-madison: It doesn't change the intent at all. I think your understanding of the intent is absolutely appropriate and accurate. It's a matter of attempting to secure more in the way of

[9:28:04 PM]

accountability.

>> Kitchen: Uh-huh.

>> Harper-madison: Both by way of individual officers and their peers. It's -- I think, to mayor pro tem's concern about it being limited by their budget, I thought we addressed that by saying that, you know, they had to exhaust that, and then, you know, there was an additional option, with the intent there. I'm not sure if that should read that way, but that's the intent, to say I believe that it's impactful to build in a

measure of peer accountability when folks are recognizing that by way of misconduct, there's some degree of compromise that's placed on the department and its budget and its ability to, you know, expend the budget being compromised by misconduct. I think there's a lot of value in peers holding one another accountable.

[9:29:04 PM]

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. Are you okay with the changes proposed by council member kitchen?

>> Harper-madison: I am. I don't have any objection to -- it's still the same -- ultimately, it still accomplishes the same goal.

>> Mayor Adler: Any objection to council member kitchen's changes going in? Hearing none, they're in. Does anybody have any objection to this? Can we take a vote? With those changes -- does anybody have any objection to it going in? Seeing none,

[indiscernible]. Are there any other budget riders before us? Okay. Let's now do the fee-related amendments. There are only three left. I think those are the last three things we have. Council member tovo.

>> Tovo: [Indiscernible]

>> Mayor Adler: You're breaking up.

[9:30:18 PM]

>> Tovo: I can't unmute myself.

>> We just heard you.

>> Mayor Adler: We can hear you now. Go ahead.

>> Tovo: [Indiscernible] Thank you. Mayor, we [indiscernible]

>> Mayor Adler: We can't hear you.

>> Tovo: Yeah.

[Indiscernible]

>> Garza: She might be asking -- I'm sorry, Kathie, to talk for you, but we did take a vote on her police thing because council member harper-madison was off the dais.

>> Mayor Adler: That's correct. We also have council member pool, has texted me that she doesn't have a voice and is exhausted. I'll point out that

[9:31:18 PM]

information to you guys. Rider number one was the one about the -- doing a study to consider residency incentives for hiring officers. I think we were five-five on the vote before. Council member harper-madison, I think you were a sponsor of this. Do you want to cast a vote on this item?

>> Harper-madison: I'm embarrassed to admit this, but I've been having my staff look for where we co-sponsored on this item. And they're not finding it, and for the sake of full disclosure, I don't remember co-sponsoring this item. And so I'm not as familiar with it as I'd like to be, and I think because I wasn't feeling especially well, I might have missed some of the implications that council member tovo laid out. I did -- some of the concerns that a few of my other colleagues laid out

[9:32:19 PM]

resonated with me, so if I could get council member tovo just briefly to speak again to -- I think we might have lost her. There's that little yellow triangle that shows up when they lose their internet.

>> Tovo: I'm here. Can you all hear me?

>> Mayor Adler: Yes, we can hear you.

>> Tovo: [Indiscernible]

>> Mayor Adler: But now we can't. You're breaking up. Kathie, if you turned off your video, would we be able to hear your voice?

>> Tovo: If you can hear me --

>> Harper-madison: I can hear higher.

>> Tovo: You can hear me? Good. Thank you. Council member harper-madison, I just

[indiscernible] I'm not sure if you were

[indiscernible] Our

[9:33:29 PM]

staff --

>> Renteria: We're not hearing anything.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. You can't be heard.

>> Tovo: Okay.

>> Mayor Adler: All right. Colleagues, I think we should stop for tonight. We're real close, but I think we should stop, pick it up -- recess now, finish the meeting tomorrow. We're very close. I think the remaining votes we have aren't going to take very long on the budget. We just have the three amendments. I'm not sure there's any dispute. We'll find out tomorrow. The rest of the items I don't know are particularly controversial. I'm going to recommend that we recess now and reconvene this meeting tomorrow morning. When would be a good time for reconvening in the morning? Do we just want to reconvene at 9:00 in the morning?

>> 10:00.

>> Mayor Adler: Do people have preferences? 10:00 in the morning? Okay. Let's convene then, at 10:00 in the morning. Council member Casar?

[9:34:31 PM]

>> Casar: I'm fine with that, with the general sense that we're not going to bring back new things. I would really -- and if somebody finds anything, I would really urge people to post it just because we've been through so much that I would just urge that we keep those three and get it done tomorrow.

>> Mayor Adler: Yeah. I can't imagine anything else happening. Council member Garza -- mayor pro tem Garza?

>> Garza: I'm getting a lot of questions about -- I don't know which item it is, but it's the active transportation part. If we could have -- what would be really helpful would be laying out what each package includes in it, as far as the project and what the cost is and all of that, and I think that would be helpful.

>> Kitchen: I can speak to that. Mayor pro tem Garza, I've done that at a high level. I'll make it more specific. And for everyone, I have

[9:35:32 PM]

posted on the message board earlier today -- I wanted to offer an alternative to folks.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. I think there's a description -- I think there's two versions of the contract for voters I think that lay out the two different project scopes. Council member Alter?

>> Alter: Thank you. So I just wanted to make sure people know that we have an updated version of the office of the chief medical officer amendment. It's mostly the summary that has changed. And so I just would ask that you read that for tomorrow morning. And then I just want to make sure I have straight what these two other elements are. Is that the golf fees and -- I don't remember what the third --

>> Mayor Adler: It's the direction that goes with the cleaning crew, the clean community fee, paying for that one.

>> Alter: Great. Thank you.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. I think those will go pretty quickly tomorrow.

[9:36:33 PM]

Mayor pro tem?

>> Garza: Mayor, does the information that you're specifying give specific amounts for roads? I'll be specific, there's -- to Ross road, for example, it is -- my understanding, cost \$50 million to totally complete. And I want to know what -- what is included in council member kitchen's amendment and what is included in the -- in what's on the -- I guess to be considered.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay. I think both folks should be prepared to discuss that tomorrow. All right? Yes. Council member Ellis?

>> Ellis: Just briefly, I wanted to draw everyone's attention to -- that there is extra information, including council member kitchen's option and a version 2 from me, that are now listed under item 10, so that contract with the voters does have updated language, as does a couple of tweaks to what

[9:37:34 PM]

the valid language would be, so you'll be able to see those on the posting where the information is posted for this meeting.

>> Mayor Adler: Right. Thank you. Council member alter, your amendment now, my understanding, has the support and agreement of staff, on the last version? Is that correct?

>> Alter: Yes. We took out the --

>> Mayor Adler: Out of the -- yeah. I just wanted --

>> Alter: We took out -- we addressed the concerns that were raised. That were raised. I can talk about it tomorrow.

>> Mayor Adler: Anything else people want to talk about before we recess this meeting?

>> Garza: Mayor?

>> Mayor Adler: Mayor pro tem?

>> Garza: I just wanted to say our first budgets we went all three days, we should be proud of ourselves for getting this far the first day. Don't be disappointed, guys.

>> Mayor Adler: And the first day is going to continue tomorrow. Tomorrow is going to be an extension of this meeting so we can finish -- we have some people that are not feeling well right now. Council member tovo, did you raise your hand, and then council member

[9:38:35 PM]

harper-madison?

>> Tovo: I think -- yeah. I'm not sure why, I couldn't unmute myself, but it sounds like it's a moot point because it sounds as if we're recessing for the night. I missed that part when I was offline.

>> Mayor Adler: Okay.

>> Tovo: So we're not coming back to the budget direction at this moment. Is that correct?

>> Mayor Adler: Correct. We're going to be recessing and coming back tomorrow at 10:00. We've handled all the monetary stuff, we've handled all the riders. The only thing that we have before us tomorrow is the fee-related amendments.

>> Tovo: We still haven't taken a vote on my rider.

>> Tovo: And your rider rider --

>> Mayor Adler: Yes, and your rider with respect to residency. Those would be what we take up tomorrow. Council member harper-madison?

>> Harper-madison: I just wanted to point out, I might have missed something in the exchange, I just wanted to point out that if we needed to keep going, I can rally to get us through the night. I hope you're not adjourning the meeting on my behalf.

[9:39:37 PM]

>> Mayor Adler: Well, I could continue going, but my understanding is council member pool and council member kitchen have asked for us to recess.

>> Harper-madison: Okay.

>> Mayor Adler: Let's go ahead and pick it up tomorrow. All right. Tomorrow at 10:00. I think we did incredibly well today. We got through all the difficult things, I think. Tomorrow should go pretty quickly. Let's see if we can make that happen. So here at 9:39, this meeting is recessed. And we'll pick it back up at 10:00 tomorrow morning.