

Board General Mailbox

From: Rachel McLean
Sent: Tuesday July 14, 2020 11:52
To: Board General Mailbox
Subject: Re: Toronto Police Services Board Town Hall - Call-in instructions

Hello,

Thank you for the email.

I can no longer attend this session tomorrow. I would like to express my point of view as a citizen of Toronto.

I encourage the Toronto Police Services Board to consider defunding the police in order to reallocate funds to other community services. The direction that city council is taking in adding MORE funding to the police with body cams does not address what people are asking for.

Immediately redirect a minimum of 50 percent of the \$1.1B TPS budget for the communities they have devastated by investing in secure, long-term housing for street-involved and unhoused communities, food security programs, public transit, public health, public libraries, and community-led anti-violent programs.

In addition, he demands I support are:

Demilitarize the Police

- End emergency task force (ETF) and emergency response team (ERT) (similar to the US SWAT teams), tactical squads, military grade weapons, and surveillance equipment.
- Remove all weaponries from police and other law enforcement, including tasers, batons, firearms, rubber bullets, tear gas, pepper spray, and sound cannons.
- End the mass surveillance of our communities through the use of technology, such as stingray, facial recognition, and predictive policing technologies, drones, robots, and G20 surveillance technologies that remained in Toronto.

Remove Cops in Schools

- Remove school police and resource officers (SROs) in all schools (Public, Catholic, Private, and Post-Secondary) in Toronto.

Reduce Scope of Police

- End all special constable programs and all policing on campuses.
- End the policing of public transportation.
- End the policing of minor by-law infractions and noise complaints.
- End paid-duty policing programs (officers for hire by developers, street festivals, etc.).
- End police collaboration with CBSA.
- Eliminate all stealth police cars and plain-clothes operations.
- Eliminate community policing patrol in highly racialized communities.
- End carding.

Document Police Violence

- Mandate the public election of data regarding police killings, and incidents of police brutalities for all local, regional, provincial, and federal police or law enforcement agency disaggregated by race, gender, age, and citizenship.

Decriminalize Poverty Drugs, HIV, and Sex Work

- Release and expunge records for all poverty-related charges (including by-law infractions, solicitations, sleeping outside, public urination, and loitering).
- Decriminalize drugs, HIV status, and sex work.
- Release and expunge records of all drug-related and sex work charges.

Create Alternatives

- Create Crisis Intervention and Mad co-led support teams; work with communities to develop models that work for them.
- Create police-free, community-led, trauma-informed emergency service for mental health / psychiatric distress and other forms of crisis.
- Invest in community support for shelters, drop-ins, and after school programming in low-income, Black, and Indigenous neighbourhoods.
- Create restorative services, mental health services, and community-run health centres.
- Invest in harm reduction, including safe supply, safe injection / inhalation sites, and harm reduction outreach workers.
- Establish a community-based and trauma-informed emergency service for people who have experienced gender-based violence.
- Implement a civilian transportation safety service and better / safer road infrastructure for pedestrians, cyclists, and public transit.
- Create a civilian conflict resolution service to replace policing of minor by-law infractions / noise complaints.
- Provide permanent secure housing options for all people who need housing.

Thank you.

