

From: [Susan Balliette](#)
To: [Police Chief Search](#)
Subject: Next police chief
Date: Friday, September 25, 2020 11:02:08 AM

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Hi. I'd like to see the next police chief want to end racial profiling and be sensitive to the black community and other minorities. Susan Balliette.

From: [Bonnie Roe](#)
To: [Wahl, Victor](#); [Police Chief Search](#)
Subject: Letter I sent to PSRCBS
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 3:35:13 PM

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Dear Chief Wahl and Police and Fire Commissioner,

I wanted to send you a letter I sent to the Public Safety Review Committee Budget Subcommittee for its meeting this morning at 8am. It is a meeting I highly recommend you watch, as my eyes were opened to the horrible reality of what you all are dealing with in our City. Thank you, Madison Police Department, for all you do. I am grateful for your work beyond words and though I am just one little voice, I intend to amplify it to the maximum in support of the MPD.

September 28, 2020

Bonnie Roe
4410 Somerset Lane
Madison, WI 53711

Dear Chair Konkell, Alder Heck and Alder Mitnick, et al.,

I am writing to request that the City of Madison approve the MPD proposed budget and that it not be de-funded one dime. I think the more logical thing would be to increase funding for our Police Department. Our city is in a state of crisis right now, in fact multiple crises, all of which impact the Madison Police Department in a huge way. We have a global pandemic resulting in domestic violence, mental health and homelessness being off the charts. We have a skyrocketing crime rate right, with the previous record shots fired incidents being absolutely dwarfed by what we have now. From my neighborhood, I occasionally hear gunshots and neighborhoods near me hear them very frequently, often not knowing if they are fireworks or actual shots. Bullets have flown through windows not far from my house, narrowly missing an adult and a young child who was injured by broken glass. We had the tragic shooting of 11-year-old Anisa Scott, shot in the head while riding in a car on a major city street in the middle of the day presumably by 16-, 17-, and 19-year-old teens with prior criminal records. One had escaped arrest and later escaped out of jail and was still back out on the streets, doing more harm. Then the death of Kyla Robinson, another tragedy which could have been prevented had juvenile crime been taken seriously. And most recently Anthony Chung, a model citizen, recent graduate of Memorial High School, National Merit Scholar and former student representative on the School Board. Killed in his car when it was hit by Maurice Chandler, an 18-year-old alleged multiple felon, in a likely stolen Jeep going 91mph in a 30mph zone when it T-boned Chung's car, killing him at the scene. His girlfriend received many broken bones, requiring surgery. What a tragedy. A tragedy that could have been prevented had juvenile offenses been properly handled and

bail not extended in charge after charge, despite five counts of felony bail jumping and 3 counts of misdemeanor bail jumping, in Chandler's case.

I am so thankful for our hard-working Madison Police Department Officers, out on the streets responding to these awful, heart-wrenching situations. They continue to arrest these offenders and sadly, too often, the court system lets them off the hook to continue to commit more crimes that no one but the Police Officers respond to. Again and again, over and over. They are severely overworked, often being forced to work 12-hour shifts, and it's hard work. It's no surprise to me that the City is having so much trouble finding a permanent Chief of Police. The MPD needs the backing of the City of Madison and our Mayor, from funding to emotional support, from public trust to practical support, including from the court system.

People speak of "de-funding the police" and then act like the phrase was hijacked. What it means, they say, is that Police officers don't need to be responding to all types of calls. There are people better equipped to handle domestic disputes and issues arising out of mental illness. Yet it is the Police that must continue to respond to these calls from our residents. No one else is doing it. If people want to divert funds for those types of calls, then the MPD needs to be told which calls not to take. Some say the Police cannot be trusted to deal with our Black residents, and yet the officers of our MPD have state-of-the-art training and impeccable records. They were voted out of the schools when they undoubtedly provided some of the best role models ever to underserved Black juveniles in the schools, especially for those on their way to a criminal record.

You know that the vast majority of MPD's budget goes toward Personnel. To cut just 5% of MPD's budget would require cutting 26 police officers from our streets. We already do not have enough patrol officers to respond to the breath-taking amount of calls coming in at all hours of the day. They have spent way too much time on Priority Calls Only status since the protests and riots of the summer started happening. We need more officers on the streets, not less. We need healthy officers, working a reasonable amount of hours and responding to a manageable number of calls. We need enough officers to spend time in communities with frequent-call rates, establishing bridges and connections. We need enough officers to patrol the streets, where cars and motorcycles are racing during daytime and nighttime hours, often without any consequences, unless they crash, which is happening way too often. Many of the deaths are young people, nearly all ethnic minority citizens. We cannot allow these things to happen on our streets and in our neighborhoods. We need the City to allow the MPD the resources it needs to keep our great City safe, or I should say, to restore it to safety.

Please resist the urge to satisfy the few loud voices calling to de-fund the Police and instead give these heroes what they need to do their indispensable jobs. The success of our City depends on it.

Best regards,

Bonnie Roe
608-239-1748