

**DIRECTORS'/ORGANIZATIONAL AGENDA
ADDENDUM**

Monday, June 22, 2020

I. CONSTITUENT CORRESPONDENCE

1. 20-71 - Tim Diehlman
2. Support a Fairness - Moni Usasz
3. Recycling Center Responsibility - Toni Yost
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Staff response provided by Donna Garden, Assistant Director LTU
4. Mayor tells Sheriff Wagner to release protesters - Lynette Nash

II. CONSTITUENT CORRESPONDENCE REQUESTING TO DEFUND LPD

See attached items

III. CONSTITUENT CORRESPONDENCE IN SUPPORT OF LPD

See attached items

Angela M. Birkett

From: Tim Diehlman <diehlmant@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 12:55 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: 20-71

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

City Council,

I urge you to strongly oppose Ordinance 20-71 scheduled item 6.1 at the end of your meeting today. It's a slap in the face to all the victims of real crime last week, for the council to be considering creating a new, legally murky crime, when \$20,000,000 of vandalism and arson from last Sunday evening, remain unpunished.

Given the events of last week's \$20,000,000 vandalism and arson, REAL CRIME, which occurred mere blocks away from where you are meeting today, I can't believe that the city council sees creating a new offense based on subjective words like "intimidation" and "perception" to be at the forefront of their priorities right now! To my knowledge, nobody has yet been arrested or charged in these REAL crimes. Yet the city council is down the street discussing what amounts to a crime to be based upon motive and thought! It's ridiculous, and you should feel silly for considering this ordinance right now!

20-71, which was introduced by the mayor, creates a separate offense of "Hate Intimidation" with the victim being someone of "actual or perceived status". This would be the "icing on the cake" crime, and apply to any crime under Title 9, which means anything connected to person or property. This crime doesn't just judge what happened and your intent, like a regular criminal statue, but also delves into motive, which is unusual. As part of this unusual judgement of "motive", it also takes into account how the victim(s) identify, whether that be "actual or perceived". Furthermore it only considers identities from this limited and biased set: race, color, religion, physical or mental disability, national origin, age, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

In practice, it is doubtful this law would be applied in any egalitarian way towards all types of identities, and would most likely be applied in a biased manner, based upon which "perceived identity" of the victim are inline with the political priorities of the current administration. In other words, not all "identities" would be equally eligible for this victimhood status, either because all the possible overlapping identity groups weren't laid into the law, or because of some bias in the consideration at the time. This makes this a discriminatory law by its very nature. This also means that this new law is entirely subjective to the law enforcement and city attorney in power at the time.

During the vandalism Sunday night, the Abraham Lincoln statue on the west side of the Capitol had an Anarchy Symbol painted on it twice, something that should be very offensive to any red-blooded American who knows what Abe Lincoln did for our country. It could also be viewed as

intimidation to blacks who know what Abe Lincoln did in emancipating them. It could also be very intimidating to those that identify as Republicans who view Abe Lincoln as a foundational person to the party. Since the vandalism was the Anarchy Symbol, the victim could also be anyone who doesn't believe in anarchy. Which group is eligible or most deserving? If you have to choose, that's a bad law...

While I could see how this proposed ordinance, if used with egalitarian intent, could potentially add another sentence onto vandalism for the individual(s) that did their heinous act, it more than likely would be viewed through a certain lense, and only apply to "hate intimidation" against individuals and cases who the mayor, police, or city attorney saw fit. Good 'ol Abe's demise most likely would just be labeled as just vandalism... If it was repackaged as a "hate intimidation" crime, it would only be applied to the politically-correct victimhood at the time. Not all "identities" would get to claim to be "victims". This would be hand-picked.

Again, this opens up an entirely murky zone of a new definition of crime and is likely Unconstitutional. It is, at the least, very least UnAmerican.

Please table this ordinance today and get on with some meaningful discussion

Angela M. Birkett

From: Moni Usasz <musasz@neb.rr.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 8:58 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support a Fairness

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Council Members,

The Supreme Court decision on Monday making discrimination against LGBT people in employment illegal was amazing news! Tears were shed in my household.

I was a part of the 1983 fight for LGBT equal rights in Lincoln. We lost overwhelmingly at the ballot box. We knew we would. The battle then was about visibility and pride. That was almost 30 years ago. We never dreamed the U.S. Supreme Court would protect us in employment or we would be able to marry. Not in our lifetimes anyway but we were wrong.

Now is the time for the city of Lincoln to pass a Fairness Ordinance prohibiting discrimination in housing and public accommodations on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identify and gender expression. All members of the Lincoln community need and deserve fair treatment.

Moni Usasz

3340 S. 31

Lincoln, NE 68502

402-202-3100

Angela M. Birkett

From: Jane Raybould
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 11:17 AM
To: abyost23@gmail.com
Cc: Angela M. Birkett; Richard W. Meginnis; Lin Quenzer
Subject: Re: Recycling Center Responsibility

Toni,

I have reached out to several department managers for more direction on this issue. I know we recently increased the penalty for dumping and we are encouraging the public to be vigilant and report just like you did. We are hoping that the businesses in the vicinity might have cameras that can capture this illegal dumping to help law enforcement.

I will reach back to you once I hear back on next steps so that we can all work together to keep our City greener and in support of our recycling efforts.

Jane

From: Jane Raybould <JRaybould@lincoln.ne.gov>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 11:12 AM
To: Lin Quenzer <LQuenzer@lincoln.ne.gov>; Elizabeth D. Elliott <Elizabeth.Elliott@lincoln.ne.gov>; Donna K. Garden <DGarden@lincoln.ne.gov>
Subject: Fw: Recycling Center Responsibility

All,

I know we have tried to crack down on all this illegal dumping. I hear and see this and it is frustrating. How can businesses like ours help? What are other municipalities doing?

Thank you!

Jane

From: Antonia Yost <abyost23@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 11:21 AM
To: Sandra J. Washington <SWashington@lincoln.ne.gov>; Tammy J. Ward <TJWard@lincoln.ne.gov>; James M. Bowers <JBowers@lincoln.ne.gov>; Jane Raybould <JRaybould@lincoln.ne.gov>; Bennie R. Shobe <BShobe@lincoln.ne.gov>
Subject: Recycling Center Responsibility

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Hi City Council Members! I hope this Monday finds you well.

I live in Air Park and recycle at the Air Park Rec Center. I have noticed that the plastics bin has been full more than it is not, but that is not why I am communicating with you today. This Sunday when I went to empty my recycling, not only did I find that people had just dumped garbage bags full of plastics near the overflowing bin

(which had opened and were blowing around) but I also was astonished at the amount of junk people had dumped. Tires, boxsprings, lamps, shelving... Obviously none of these things are recyclable at this facility...but my complaint isn't with my uninformed or neglectful neighbors. There was a number printed on the side of the recycle bin to call so I decided to let someone know...And I was astonished to connect to City Dispatch! So was the dispatcher to be honest. I explained what I was seeing, and she said an officer would be out. I would like to make it clear that in calling that number I was expecting to connect to a recycling service, to connect to people who were passionate about the environment, reducing waste, beautifying communities, and building a more sustainable future. I was not expecting law enforcement, I was expecting someone who had an interest in cleaning things up. Does the city expect a cop to clean this up? Why was law enforcement the first (and only) recourse I had as a citizen to take action to help my neighborhood?

I love my neighborhood. I moved in with my boyfriend last summer and we have built a life here. We ride bikes to Bowling Lake, we take strolls in our neighborhood almost nightly. I have planted tomatoes and herbs. We love being so close to Nine Mile and watching the planes land over a firepit in the backyard. What I am saying is that my neighborhood, and a lot of other neighborhoods here in Lincoln, need resources beyond just sending out a cop. Will that cop who went out there actually find and ticket whoever dumped those tires? What use was sending them out? Will they actually be helping that neighborhood?

I want to live in a city that builds healthy communities from the ground up. Lincoln's diverse and more poorly funded neighborhoods need city government that is willing to see these small problems in a larger context. I grew up right next to Lincoln Northeast High School, currently own a business in University Place and lived for years in the Near South. And I can assure you, if people don't have the resources or feel empowered in their own lives enough to even properly recycle some tires or pay the fees to drop things at the dump, this isn't a problem for law enforcement. Education, community building, and job creation would be more along the right lines. People want to feel taken care of by their city. This may seem like a tiny problem, and I acknowledge that it is, but the complexity of building healthy and thriving societies is about getting a whole lot of small things right.

I hope it is your goal and the goals of your colleagues to build communities that want to take care of their neighborhoods, and not just ticket them when someone leaves a mess to clean up.

Thank you so much for your time and your work,
Toni Yost

Angela M. Birkett

From: Donna K. Garden
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 10:21 AM
To: Jane Raybould; Richard W. Meginnis; James M. Bowers; Sandra J. Washington; Roy A. Christensen; Bennie R. Shobe
Cc: Lin Quenzer; Angela M. Birkett; Willa M. DiCostanzo
Subject: FW: Recycling Center Responsibility

Dear Council Members:

Please find my response to Ms. Yost below. My apologies for not copying all of you my e-mail. If you have questions, please give me a call. Thank you!

Donna K. Garden

Transportation and Utilities Assistant Director | Utilities
City of Lincoln Transportation and Utilities
O: 402-441-8605 | M: 402-430-6449

From: Donna K. Garden
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:54 AM
To: Tammy J. Ward <TJWard@lincoln.ne.gov>; Antonia Yost <abyost23@gmail.com>
Cc: Willa M. DiCostanzo <WDiCostanzo@lincoln.ne.gov>
Subject: RE: Recycling Center Responsibility

Dear Ms. Yost,

I, too, want to thank you for your e-mail and sincerely appreciate your efforts to help with this illegal dumping situation. I spoke with our Waste Diversion Coordinator, Willa DiCostanzo and she provided the following information:

Law enforcement is only involved at our sites when there is an illegal dumping or the investigation of illegal dumping. Both the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department's Keep-Lincoln and Lancaster County Beautiful and Solid Waste Management Division have promoted reporting illegal dumping to the police as it is occurring. Since illegally dumping materials is against the law, law enforcement's number is listed. The faster we report an illegal dumping the better opportunity we have to catch the individual and stop this activity.

There is another phone number listed on the white sign at the site. This phone number is the Solid Waste Management's Recycling hotline number, 402-441-8215. We recommend calling this number for any other issues associated to the recycling site and only using the dispatch numbers if you are witnessing an illegal dumping activity happening while you are at the site. Unfortunately illegal dumping has occurred quite frequently at our Consumer Recyclables Collection Sites. When illegal dumping occurs it requires more staff time to pick-up the illegally dumped items for disposal. To mitigate some of the illegal dumping that is occurring, the Lincoln Municipal Code was updated at the beginning of this year that allows Law Enforcement to cite individuals dumping illegally.

We appreciate that we have vigilant citizens concerned about the environment as much as we are. If you have concerns please program in your phone and dial our recycling hotline anytime you have recycling questions or concerns about

the recycling sites. Again, that number is 402-441-8215. The staff at the Solid Waste Management Division and Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department work diligently to ensure citizens' concerns are heard and responded to.

I apologize that the route of your phone conversation led you to the police dispatch this weekend and the if you have future concerns please call our recycling hotline number at 402-441-8215.

Donna K. Garden

Transportation and Utilities Assistant Director | Utilities
City of Lincoln Transportation and Utilities
O: 402-441-8605 | M: 402-430-6449

From: Tammy J. Ward <TJWard@lincoln.ne.gov>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 9:32 AM
To: Antonia Yost <abyost23@gmail.com>
Cc: Donna K. Garden <DGarden@lincoln.ne.gov>
Subject: Re: Recycling Center Responsibility

Dear Ms. Yost,

Thank you very much for your thoughtful email. I am grateful you and your boyfriend enjoy living in Air Park and have embraced a good life living in Lincoln.

We also appreciate your passion for recycling and being responsible by reporting misuse. I am including Donna Garden, Assist Director of our Transportation and Utilities Division, and who oversees our recycling programs, on this note so she can answer your concerns.

Thanks again for bringing this issue to our attention and for your very well thought-out email to the Lincoln City Council.

Tammy

Tammy J. Ward
*Lincoln City Council
Northwest District
o: 402.441.7515
c: 402.580.6611*

From: Antonia Yost <abyost23@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 11:21 AM
To: Sandra J. Washington <SWashington@lincoln.ne.gov>; Tammy J. Ward <TJWard@lincoln.ne.gov>; James M. Bowers

<JBowers@lincoln.ne.gov>; Jane Raybould <JRaybould@lincoln.ne.gov>; Bennie R. Shobe <BShobe@lincoln.ne.gov>

Subject: Recycling Center Responsibility

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

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I love my neighborhood. I moved in with my boyfriend last summer and we have built a life here. We ride bikes to Bowling Lake, we take strolls in our neighborhood almost nightly. I have planted tomatoes and herbs. We love being so close to Nine Mile and watching the planes land over a firepit in the backyard. What I am saying is that my neighborhood, and a lot of other neighborhoods here in Lincoln, need resources beyond just sending out a cop. Will that cop who went out there actually find and ticket whoever dumped those tires? What use was sending them out? Will they actually be helping that neighborhood?

I want to live in a city that builds healthy communities from the ground up. Lincoln's diverse and more poorly funded neighborhoods need city government that is willing to see these small problems in a larger context. I grew up right next to Lincoln Northeast High School, currently own a business in University Place and lived for years in the Near South. And I can assure you, if people don't have the resources or feel empowered in their own lives enough to even properly recycle some tires or pay the fees to drop things at the dump, this isn't a problem for law enforcement. Education, community building, and job creation would be more along the right lines. People want to feel taken care of by their city. This may seem like a tiny problem, and I acknowledge that it is, but the complexity of building healthy and thriving societies is about getting a whole lot of small things right.

I hope it is your goal and the goals of your colleagues to build communities that want to take care of their neighborhoods, and not just ticket them when someone leaves a mess to clean up.

Thank you so much for your time and your work,
Toni Yost

Angela M. Birkett

From: 1lnash@windstream.net
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 10:49 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Mayor Tells Sheriff Wagner to release protesters

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Mayor and Lincoln City Council Members:

Really, what are you going to do next? Mayor, Sheriff Wagner is a County Official not a city official! I believe you have a big plate of issues that you need to be attending to without interfering with the County Officials!!!! How many more excuses are we going to hear before you start fixing our streets? I suppose the next excuse will be, its winter, and streets have to be fixed in warm weather. We are having one of the warmest June's ever with no street repair.

This is NEBRASKA, not San Francisco. Nebraska citizens work hard and we expect our Mayor and City Council Members to be working hard also! We all know that you got elected with George Soros money and Illegals. We also know that you are for illegals voting also. You may have gotten away with these kind of the things in CA but NOT going to happen here in NEBRASKA, especially not Lincoln, NE

Concerned,

Lynette Nash

I need a response from this e-mail.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Zoe <zdegrande@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 10:57 AM
To: Mayor; NewsHelp; Council Packet; James M. Bowers; Richard W. Meginnis; Jane Raybould; Tammy J. Ward; Sandra J. Washington; Roy A. Christensen; Bennie R. Shobe
Subject: Defund LPD, Fund Social Services

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Mayor Gaylor Baird and Members of City Council,

My name is Zoe and I am a resident of Lincoln. I write this letter to urge you to begin defunding and demilitarizing the Lincoln Police Department. LPD's budget has increased by 14% since the 2017-2018 budget. For the 2019-2020 year, the portion of the general fund spent on LPD was just under 25%. LPD's increased funding is a direct harm to other necessary and more needed services in our city. Other services including parks and recreation, transportation and utilities, and urban development take much less out of the general cost for the city: 9.8%, 1.3%, and 0.5% respectively (Source: 2018-2020 Council Adopted Biennial Operating Budget). LPD is a direct cost to other services this city desperately needs.

As Lincoln residents, we therefore demand that you take immediate action to ensure the following:

- Reduce LPD's allocation from the General Fund.
- Reallocate those funds into housing, jobs, youth programs, restorative justice, mental health workers, and community development programs to keep the community safe.
- Disallow unauthorized overtime by LPD.
- Discontinue use of General Fund dollars to pay for settlements due to police murder, misconduct, and negligence.

Lincoln cannot wait any longer for a budget that meets the needs of its residents. The only way to achieve this is to take immediate steps to defund LPD.

Thank you,

Zoe DeGrande

Angela M. Birkett

From: Jamie Reeves <jamie.j.reeves@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 5:00 AM
To: Jamie. 🐼
Subject: DEFUND

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

It is necessary to defund police in order to create safer community. I know it may be scary to dismantle a police department in your little frame of reality, but it is scarier that police regularly terrorize and murder citizens.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Jamie Reeves <jamie.j.reeves@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 5:29 PM
To: Jamie. 🐼
Subject: Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

It is absolutely imperative that we defund the police. It is absolutely imperative that both no knock, and quick knock warrants are completely outlawed. It is absolutely imperative that police misconduct investigations be done by a party not within, or sympathizing with the police department. It is absolutely imperative that we demilitarize the police. It is absolutely imperative that SWAT teams don't exist. It is absolutely imperative we do not bring military tactics of police forces into the homes of people. It is absolutely imperative that we defund the police.

It is absolutely imperative that you stop learning all you know about police presence from police chiefs and police officers. It is absolutely imperative that you listen to the Black community. It is absolutely imperative that you know that they will not want to talk to you. It is absolutely imperative that you know that they will not trust you. It is absolutely imperative that you then work harder to understand. Police are violent. There is no ifs, ands, or buts. The presence of police is violence. The tactics of police are violence. Your enabling of police is violence. It is absolutely imperative that you are not violent towards your constituents. It is absolutely imperative that you serve your constituents.

Serve the people you were elected to represent. Do good for the people you were elected to represent. Defund the police for the people you were elected to represent.

Angela M. Birkett

From: J.Reilly <rickmaxxwell@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 10:09 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Defund the police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear councilmembers,

Re: The Mayor's plan to purchase police cams while diminishing public services.

I've heard that the implementation of police body cams will cost the taxpayers \$500,000 to purchase and then an additional \$300,000 annually to store and review video. If this is true, it is absolutely insane.

Evidence shows that body cams do not prevent police from murdering civilians, nor do they assist in serving justice afterwards. See the cases of Philando Castile, Samuel DuBose, Walter Scott, Tamir Rice and many more.

To Pay for these measures of reform (that only add power to the police) Mayor Gaylor Baird's changes will include:

- Cutting one day of service at each library branch and reducing spending on library media
- Spending less for sidewalk repair
- Raising fees to access public parks
- Eliminating the sack lunch program for elders

A note on why these are harmful: Public Libraries are essential for a community to thrive by providing access to books, the internet and safe refuge for those who are unhoused, among many other reasons. Disabled people rely on access to well paved sidewalks in order to safely travel and live a full and accessible life.

Police must be held accountable. Part of that is defunding them. Your citizens do not want to protect police fragility. They want to protect human life. Police are never held accountable. Wasting our money on fake solutions will not help. We are now educated on the history of American policing and spoiler alert, it is completely racist, brutal and absurd. Please consider doing the right thing at the right time for your city. All those people on the streets are ready at the drop of a hat to vote for someone else if you don't get this right. We deserve better.

Thank you for your time. Thank you for your service to the citizens, not the police state.

- Concerned citizen who has completely lost faith in the system and feels hopeless.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Allison Barg <allijoy15@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 5:08 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Proposed budget for LPD body cams

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I am emailing you today as to encourage you to reject the proposed budget reforms that will take taxpayer money away from necessary and beneficial public resources and put it towards the police department. I understand that the goal of implementing body cams may be to hold law enforcement accountable, but evidence suggests that this is ineffective and is, at its core, just another way to allocate more funding to law enforcement and away from the public good.

Sincerely,

Allison Barg

Angela M. Birkett

From: Grace Kelly <grace.kelly@doane.edu>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 4:31 PM
To: Council Packet; Council Packet
Subject: Objections to Budget Proposal

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Good evening Council members,

My name is Grace Kelly. I am a Lincoln resident, PhD student at UNL and an instructor of sociology and statistics. I am also a grant funded data analyst through national organizations, such as the National Institute of Health. Additionally, I have worked as an evaluation specialist (assessing the impact of governmental programs). This background affords me access to a large body of research findings and publications, as well as a working knowledge of different types of data and analysis. This email cannot provide robust analysis of pertinent research trends, because I know your time is limited. Nevertheless, please know my concerns as a private citizen are backed in data.

I'm writing today with deep concerns about the proposed budget changes. **Specifically, I do not support an increase and reallocation of funds to the LPD.** Providing all officers with body cameras is an enormous expense, with tenuous benefits. **It is also at the expense of programs and services that have been shown to be universally beneficial to cities--such as our libraries** (American Library Association, 2020; Information Policy and Access Center, 2014; Pew Research Center, 2016).

While I agree that police cameras may mitigate immediate harm, most studies have pointed to inconclusive effects of simply outfitting the police with body cameras (see the recent comprehensive review of police body camera literature: Lum et al., 2019). For the equipment to be successful, there are many factors that must be considered:

- Will the body cameras be accompanied by rigorous policy changes to ensure that they are universally used and *all* interactions are recorded?
- Is the body camera footage going to be *readily* available to the public and our legal systems?
- Will there be external reviewers of camera footage?
- How will the impact (positive or negative) of the cameras be assessed?

These are all considerations that previous research (Katz et al. 2014; Ariel et al., 2016) have pointed to as vital. They are also questions the public should have answers to if we will be funding this initiative. Will cameras *actually* benefit the Lincoln public or the police?

Do you know what *does* have unquestionable public benefit? The very things you are proposing to cut to make space for police cameras.

Lincoln City Libraries do not just provide entertainment. Research shows libraries have proven social (Brookings, 2020), civic (Philbin et al., 2019), economic (Workforce Solutions Partnership, 2020) and health (Flaherty, 2013) benefits! They provide vital access to technology and information (Neuman and Celano, 2011; Pew Research Center, 2016). They are places where people can find employment information, print materials, learn English, enroll in health care, register to vote, and build community connections; among so many other

things! As such, they are an essential resource for our community--that needs to remain as accessible as possible!

If we compare the budgets of our libraries and our police department from the 2018-2019 fiscal year, **we can see that Lincoln's existing police budget is *already* five times that of the library's** (\$55,158,134 and \$10,623,883 respectively). **Does the city truly need to allocate the police more money?** This year to date, the LPD has spent their immense budget investigating 3,220 counts of "suspicious activity", 1,166 false alarms and 10,110 disturbances (admittedly, there is a lot of definitional range here- but according to some definitions: "loud music, construction noise and barking dogs are all examples of potentially disturbing noise. What is disturbing to one person may not be disturbing to another." (FPD, 2020))

Is Lincoln safer because of these investigations? I don't have access to comprehensive data here, but I can provide my own experience. A few weeks ago, I was detained and questioned by not one, but two LPD officers in separate vehicles. What was I doing? Talking on my cell phone *in my own car, in front of my own house*. I was interrogated because the officers thought it was "suspicious" that I turned on my cell phone flashlight to find my keys "instead of the overhead light." This is not the first time that I *personally* have had such an encounter with the LPD. I also know as an educated, middle-class white woman, I simply perceive these experiences as annoying and a waste of public dollars. For others, they could be dangerous.

I would much rather live in a community where libraries do not have to stop providing important services in order to monitor such police interactions. I am certainly not against using technology to increase transparency and accountability in police actions. Data shows that with the right implementation (such as the considerations detailed earlier), body cameras can benefit the community (Stanely, 2015). **But the problem lies in the proposed funding scheme. The Lincoln police are *already* well funded.** Well funded enough to have *multiple* officers who are so bored they have ample time to harass "suspicious" people gabbing with their girlfriends in their own cars. As an LPD investigated criminal, I can assure you, our libraries and other public services can use our city dollars much more effectively than law enforcement can. If we believe our communities can be safer by holding the police accountable and monitoring them with body cameras, they should probably be required to use their own budget to do so.

It is my sincere hope that you will all work to revise the budget proposal, use *internal* police funding for accountability and keep our libraries and other programs the vibrant community resources they are!

Thank you,



Grace Kelly

PhD Student in Sociology

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

734 Oldfather Hall

Angela M. Birkett

From: ty likes chips <tylikeschips@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 1:02 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Regarding the LPD funding

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Tyler Johnson and I am a resident of Lincoln, Nebraska.

I am deeply saddened and concerned to see the proposed 2020-2021 city budget that Mayor Gaylor Baird has proposed. I strongly oppose the choice to give \$500,000 to the LPD as well as the \$300,000 fee annually to buy and use body cameras. Studies have shown that the implementation of body cameras do not significantly reduce police misconduct (including murder) and certainly do not help serve justice afterwards.

Additionally, I am appalled that the Mayor has decided to strip funding and limit community access from actual useful community programs such as libraries and parks. It shows me that she cares more about cops than she does the most marginalized groups in the community she is meant to serve.

I urge the Mayor and City Council to redistribute the funds that would go toward body cameras for police to more valuable community programs and services. In addition, I urge you to continue to further defund the police and to redistribute the funds from that department to other, more specified programs within this community that will help keep us safe not only from crime, but also from our violent and racist police force.

Thank you for reading and passing this message to those it may concern.

Best,
Tyler Johnson

Angela M. Birkett

From: Kylan Pinkelman <kylan.pinkelman@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:24 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Proposed Budget - Defund the Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Members of the Lincoln City Council, and to whom it may concern,

My name is Kylan Pinkelman, I am a local Lincoln resident and active voter. I am emailing to express my disgust with your recent budget decisions regarding the Lincoln Police Department. It is my understanding that the decision has been made to increase funding for the department. It is my understanding that a large part of this increase is to fund bodycams for LPD, the line of thinking being that these cameras will help hold officers more accountable for their actions and create a more trusting and safe environment. Furthermore, these budget increases come at the expense of cutting public programs, which I understand to include at least:

1. Cutting one day of service at our local library branches.
2. Reduce spending for sidewalk repair.
3. Raising fees to access public parks.
4. Eliminating the sack lunch program for elders.

Providing cameras to officers whose training creates an adversarial relationship with the public is not going to solve the underlying issues that are causing this problem. Body cameras do not disrupt police violence against Black people. The police murdered George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Philandro Castile, and Tamir Rice (to name only a few well known victims) while on camera. As should be resoundingly clear from the continued protests in Lincoln, residents do not want meaningless reforms that channel even more money into policing. Policing is inherently anti-Black. The only way to prevent continued terrorization of Black residents is to completely defund the Lincoln Police.

Cutting funding for the things that tie our communities together, such as libraries, sidewalks, and public parks in order to fund this poorly thought out half-measure is a travesty. It goes against the public trust and demonstrates that the government of our city favors the perceived protection offered by our police, a historically racist and violent force developed to impose terror on Black communities, rather than the genuine wellbeing of Lincoln residents.

ADDITIONALLY, you must immediately release all protesters currently being held and **DROP ALL CHARGES**. These protests are occurring because you are failing this community, you work for us and have continued to show that you are unwilling to listen to what your constituents need to be safe. This is an opportunity for y'all to show up and listen to your community, to make the changes that will keep us all safe. By imposing a curfew, **firing tear gas and rubber bullets on peaceful protesters**, and continuing to hold them you are **EXEMPLIFYING** exactly why we need to protest. I hope you can find a moment to sit with yourself and decide how you want to be remembered, because we are watching and we are voting.

Disappointed but not surprised,
Kylan Pinkelman

Angela M. Birkett

From: Benjamin Lawrence <benjamin.h.lawrence@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:32 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Defund the Lincoln Police Dept.

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Members of the Lincoln City Council, and to whom it may concern,

My name is Benjamin Lawrence, I am a local Lincoln resident and active voter. I am emailing to express my disfavor with your recent budget decisions regarding the Lincoln Police Department. It is my understanding that the decision has been made to increase funding for the department in light of the longstanding issues with the accountability of LPD that have only recently been given attention due to the protests and demonstrations that have taken place in our city.

It is my understanding that a large part of this increase is to fund bodycams for LPD, the line of thinking being that these cameras will help hold officers more accountable for their actions and create a more trusting and safe environment. Furthermore, these budget increases come at the expense of cutting public programs, which I understand to include at least:

1. Cutting one day of service at our local library branches.
2. Reduce spending for sidewalk repair.
3. Raising fees to access public parks.
4. Eliminating the sack lunch program for elders.

Speaking human to human, please go online and watch the video of Derek Chauvin murdering George Floyd, on camera, and reason to yourself afterward just how bodycams will stop atrocities such as that from taking place.

If we want to hold our officers accountable, we need them to undergo the training and rigorous mental exercise required to actually maintain public safety in dangerous situations. De-escalation training and non-violent methods of subdual are proven to work. I am not here to do your research for you, but do a quick online search of how police operate in other modern countries such as Norway or Sweden, and you will see what I mean. **Providing cameras to officers whose training creates an adversarial relationship with the public is not going to solve the underlying issues that are causing this problem and may well only exacerbate these issues.**

In addition, cutting funding for the things that tie our communities together, such as libraries, sidewalks, and public parks in order to fund this poorly thought out half-measure is a travesty. It goes against the public trust and demonstrates that the government of our city favors the perceived protection offered by our police in maintaining the status quo in favor of true reform.

My suggestion is you defund the LPD, and use the freed up funds to bolster public programs, our libraries, our parks, and new programs that could strengthen our communities. The goal should not be to increasingly arm and provide for our police, but to create a society with enough support for those in need that police intervention is largely unnecessary.

I believe that any society is only as good as it treats its weakest members, and that includes those who commit crimes. Police will always be necessary, but never at the cost of the public good. We desperately need to examine the role they play in society.

Thank you for reading this.

Disappointed,
Benjamin Lawrence
1109 F St. Apt 2
Lincoln NE, 68508

Angela M. Birkett

From: Cale Drayer <caledrayer@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:17 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Proposal of Bodycams

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I am writing to state that I, along with many others, are fervently against the proposed budget changes that would equip lincoln police officers with bodycams. All of the resources you would be cutting and changing to make this ineffective measure possible are monumentally more impactful to the community than the LPD.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Brynn Fuelberth <brynnf210@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 9:37 AM
To: Mayor; NewsHelp; Council Packet; James M. Bowers; Richard W. Meginnis; Jane Raybould; Tammy J. Ward; Sandra J. Washington; Roy A. Christensen; Bennie R. Shobe
Subject: Requests from a 19 year old

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Mayor Gaylor Bairdand Members of City Council,

My name is Brynn Fuelberth and I am a resident of Lincoln, Nebraska. I write this letter to urge you to begin defunding and demilitarizing the Lincoln Police Department. LPD's budget has increased by 14% since the 2017-2018 budget. For the 2019-2020 year, the portion of the general fund spent on LPD was just under 25%. LPD's increased funding is a direct harm to other necessary and more needed services in our city. Other services including parks and recreation, transportation and utilities, and urban development take much less out of the general cost for the city: 9.8%, 1.3%, and 0.5% respectively (Source: 2018-2020 Council Adopted Biennial Operating Budget). LPD is a direct cost to other services this city desperately needs.

As Lincoln residents, we therefore demand that you take immediate action to ensure the following:

- * Reduce LPD's allocation from the General Fund.
- * Reallocate those funds into housing, jobs, youth programs, restorative justice, mental health workers, and community development programs to keep the community safe.
- * Disallow unauthorized overtime by LPD.
- * Discontinue use of General Fund dollars to pay for settlements due to police murder, misconduct, and negligence.

Lincoln cannot wait any longer for a budget that meets the needs of its residents. The only way to achieve this is to take immediate steps to defund LPD.

Thank you,

Brynn Fuelberth
4621 Browning Ct. Lincoln, NE 68516
brynnf210@gmail.com

Angela M. Birkett

From: Jamie Reeves <jamie.j.reeves@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 4:03 AM
To: Jamie. 🐼
Subject: Public Safety

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Hello,

I am writing today to vouch for how imperative it is that we defund the police. We need to view public safety in a way that does not make Black, LGBTQ+, low income people unsafe.

Sincerely,
Jamie Reeves

Angela M. Birkett

From: Thomina Niles <thomina.niles@huskers.unl.edu>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 11:30 PM
To: Mayor
Subject: Defund LPD

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Mayor Gaylor Bairdand Members of City Council,

My name is Thomina Niles and I am a resident of Lincoln as well as a student at UNL. I write this letter to urge you to begin defunding and demilitarizing the Lincoln Police Department. LPD's budget has increased by 14% since the 2017-2018 budget. For the 2019-2020 year, the portion of the general fund spent on LPD was just under 25%. LPD's increased funding is a direct harm to other necessary and more needed services in our city. Other services including parks and recreation, transportation and utilities, and urban development take much less out of the general cost for the city: 9.8%, 1.3%, and 0.5% respectively (Source: 2018-2020 Council Adopted Biennial Operating Budget). LPD is a direct cost to other services this city desperately needs.

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- * Disallow unauthorized overtime by LPD.
- * Discontinue use of General Fund dollars to pay for settlements due to police murder, misconduct, and negligence.

Lincoln cannot wait any longer for a budget that meets the needs of its residents. The only way to achieve this is to take immediate steps to defund LPD.

Thank you,

Thomina Niles
thomina.niles@huskers.unl.edu
605-680-2372

Angela M. Birkett

From: Kelsie Prall <kelsie.prall@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 7:41 PM
To: Mayor
Subject: A change Lincoln needs

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Mayor Gaylor Bairdand Members of City Council,

My name is Kelsie Prall and I am a resident of Lincoln, I write this letter to urge you to begin defunding and demilitarizing the Lincoln Police Department. LPD's budget has increased by 14% since the 2017-2018 budget. For the 2019-2020 year, the portion of the general fund spent on LPD was just under 25%. LPD's increased funding is a direct harm to other necessary and more needed services in our city. Other services including parks and recreation, transportation and utilities, and urban development take much less out of the general cost for the city: 9.8%, 1.3%, and 0.5% respectively (Source: 2018-2020 Council Adopted Biennial Operating Budget). LPD is a direct cost to other services this city desperately needs.

As Lincoln residents, we therefore demand that you take immediate action to ensure the following:

- * Reduce LPD's allocation from the General Fund.
- * Reallocate those funds into housing, jobs, youth programs, restorative justice, mental health workers, and community development programs to keep the community safe.
- * Disallow unauthorized overtime by LPD.
- * Discontinue use of General Fund dollars to pay for settlements due to police murder, misconduct, and negligence.

Lincoln cannot wait any longer for a budget that meets the needs of its residents. The only way to achieve this is to take immediate steps to defund LPD.

Thank you,

Kelsie Prall
1406 indigo road
Kelsie.prall@gmail.com

Angela M. Birkett

From: Meghan Leadabrand <meghan.leadabrand@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 5:05 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Demanding Support for Community, NOT Cops

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Meghan Leadabrand
1506 E St
Lincoln, NE 68508
(605) 868-0056

18 June 2020

City of Lincoln City Council
555 S 10th St #111
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Lincoln City Council Members:

My name is Meghan Leadabrand, and I am a Lincoln resident and community member. I am writing to you today to explicitly state my disapproval of Mayor Gaylor Baird's proposed 2020-2021 budget and the depletion of vital community funds to increase the police budget.

Recent events, including the murders of George Floyd, Rayshard Brooks, and countless other Black individuals by police, have shed light on the racist underbelly of American institutions and systems and revealed the necessity for change and community support. As the nation mourns the loss of Mr. Floyd, Mr. Brooks, and other Black lives, and as we continue to promote public health in a time of widespread panic, it is more important than ever for us to rely on our friends and neighbors for social, emotional, physical, and economic support.

That said, I appreciate Mayor Gaylor Baird's plans to hold police accountable, but increasing the Lincoln Police Department's funding to provide body-worn cameras and hire an additional officer while simultaneously cutting funding to important community resources, i.e. libraries and parks, is not the way to achieve accountability. Increasing LPD's budget provides more funding, and thereby power, to an already powerful institution—it does nothing to actually challenge systemic racism or promote equity

Therefore, I oppose the proposed budget and wish for my taxpayer dollars to be spent on more valuable community resources that actually increase equity (e.g. libraries, parks, public transportation, or youth services, to name a few).

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I hope you consider the importance of supporting communities, not cops, at the next City Council meeting.

Sincerely,

Meghan Leadabrand

--

Meghan Leadabrand

Project Coordinator, Department of Sociology

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

(605) 868-0056 | meghan.leadabrand@gmail.com

Angela M. Birkett

From: Rachel Stenger <rachelstengerbsu@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 4:58 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Proposed Budget

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Hello,

My name is Rachel and I'm a resident of Lincoln. I am emailing to put my concern on record that I oppose the proposed budget. The mayor's proposal to fund the Lincoln police department with body cameras and take away money from community programs is not in the best interest of our community. We should not be increasing funding for the police department and instead, we should be investing our money into essential community services. Funding services like libraries, sidewalk repairs, and social services aimed at helping the elderly in our community are more important than funding the police.

Thank you,

Rachel Stenger

Angela M. Birkett

From: Kirsten McCormack <kmccormack98@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 4:26 PM
To: Mayor; NewsHelp; Council Packet; James M. Bowers; Richard W. Meginnis; Jane Raybould; Tammy J. Ward; Sandra J. Washington; Roy A. Christensen; Bennie R. Shobe
Subject: DEFUND THE LINCOLN POLICE, JUSTICE FOR THE LINCOLN COMMUNITY

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Mayor Gaylor Baird and Members of City Council,

My name is Kirsten McCormack and I am a resident of Southside Lincoln. I am writing to you today to beg you, to please begin defunding and demilitarizing the Lincoln Police Department. LPD's budget has increased by 14% since the 2017-2018 budget. For the 2019-2020 year, the portion of the general fund spent on LPD was just under 25%. LPD's increased funding is a direct harm to other necessary and more needed services in our city. Other services including parks and recreation, transportation and utilities, and urban development take much less out of the general cost for the city: 9.8%, 1.3%, and 0.5% respectively (Source: 2018-2020 Council Adopted Biennial Operating Budget). LPD is a direct cost to other services this city desperately needs.

If we can continue to increase funds for services like parks and recreation, transportation and utilities, and urban development, we can insure a safer environment for the children and people of our community. In turn, we will make our community better and people will be less likely to engage in crime. When you increase the funds for the police department, you are telling our community that what we deserve as citizens to feel safe is not important. You cannot continue to give all of these funds to the police department and at the same time act like you care about BIPOC of this community. BIPOC Lives Matter! Our Lincoln Community Matters! Please do the right thing for the Lincoln and begin to defund and demilitarize the Lincoln Police Department.

As Lincoln residents, we therefore demand that you take immediate action to ensure the following:

- * Reduce LPD's allocation from the General Fund.
- * Reallocate those funds into housing, jobs, youth programs, restorative justice, mental health workers, and community development programs to keep the community safe.
- * Disallow unauthorized overtime by LPD.
- * Discontinue use of General Fund dollars to pay for settlements due to police murder, misconduct, and negligence.

Lincoln cannot wait any longer for a budget that meets the needs of its residents. The only way to achieve this is to take immediate steps to defund LPD.

Thank you,

Kirsten McCormack
832 E St, Lincoln NE, 68508
kmccormack98@gmail.com
402-957-0620

Angela M. Birkett

From: Rosalind Kichler <rosalinddk@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 3:59 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Proposed City Budget

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Council Members,

My name is Rosalind Kichler. I am a resident of Lincoln, NE. I am writing to voice my outrage with the proposed city budget. Mayor Gaylor Baird's budget would rob essential social and civil services such as the library, sidewalk repair, and senior center in order to afford outfitting Lincoln Police with body cameras for the police.

I am strongly against using the city budget to purchase body cameras. Body cameras do not disrupt police violence against Black people. The police murdered George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Philandro Castile, and Tamir Rice (to name only a few well known victims) while on camera. As should be resoundingly clear from the continued protests in Lincoln, residents do not want meaningless reforms that channel even more money into policing. Policing is inherently anti-Black. The only way to prevent continued terrorization of Black residents is to completely defund the Lincoln Police.

Cordially,
Rosalind Kichler

Rosalind Kichler, M.A.
(she/her)
Ph.D Student || Sociology
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Angela M. Birkett

From: Cam Penner <iamcampenner@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 3:38 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Against Increasing Spending on LPD

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Hi,

I recently learned that Mayor Gaylor Baird wants to equip the LPD with body cameras. While this sounds like it could be a good idea, I strongly believe it is not. It will cost \$500,000 to implement and \$300,000 a year to maintain and review the video footage.

Equipping the LPD with body cams does not solve the issue of stopping their violence towards Black people. There are so many cases of police that just turn their cameras off before they attack civilians. Police need to be held accountable for when they cross the line. Right now in our society they essentially have immunity to commit crimes of violence towards Black people.

Also, using this money to purchase body cams will take away from community organizations that are actually helping people like sidewalk repairs, the library, and a sack lunch program for the elderly. We don't need to be taking money from these programs. We need to be taking money away from the LPD and funneling it into community programs that will directly impact communities.

--

Cam Penner
402.610.5628
iamcampenner@gmail.com
cameronpenner.com

Angela M. Birkett

From: Autumn Peters <autumnptrs@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 2:32 PM
Subject: Defunding and demilitarization of Lincoln Police Department

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Mayor Gaylor Baird and Members of City Council,

My name is Autumn, and I am a resident of Lincoln Nebraska. I write this letter to urge you to begin defunding and demilitarizing the Lincoln Police Department. LPD's budget has increased by 14% since the 2017-2018 budget. For the 2019-2020 year, the portion of the general fund spent on LPD was just under 25%. LPD's increased funding is a direct harm to other necessary and more needed services in our city. Other services including parks and recreation, transportation and utilities, and urban development take much less out of the general cost for the city: 9.8%, 1.3%, and 0.5% respectively (Source: 2018-2020 Council Adopted Biennial Operating Budget). LPD is a direct cost to other services this city desperately needs.

As Lincoln residents, we therefore demand that you take immediate action to ensure the following:

- * Reduce LPD's allocation from the General Fund.
- * Reallocate those funds into housing, jobs, youth programs, restorative justice, mental health workers, and community development programs to keep the community safe.
- * Disallow unauthorized overtime by LPD.
- * Discontinue use of General Fund dollars to pay for settlements due to police murder, misconduct, and negligence.

Lincoln cannot wait any longer for a budget that meets the needs of its residents. The only way to achieve this is to take immediate steps to defund LPD.

Thank you,

Autumn Peters
autumnptrs@gmail.com
(308)-589-0146

Angela M. Birkett

From: Alex Andazola <alexa.a.andazola@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 2:10 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: The Proposed Budget

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Hello,

I am a Lincoln, Nebraska citizen and I am very disappointed in the proposed budget our mayor has currently proposed. I disagree in spending more money on police. There are many more areas that need our immediate attention. We need to reallocate those funds to more valuable community services. As a future educator I have seen the value local libraries have on youth. It gives the a safe space to relax, learn, and a place to go if their home is not a calm/good place to be. Libraries provide so much to our local community. There is no good reason to cut hours or funding towards these positive places. It is also unfair to cut park hours and funding. Parks are an important place for children to explore nature, get exercise, and interact with family and peers. These are two of the many areas that need much more attention than police body cams. Studies show that police body cams have not had significant or consistent effects on police behavior (look at case like Philando Castile, Walter Scott, Tamir Rice, and many more.) While I understand our Mayor wants to help keep police accountable and our city safe, I do not agree that this is the way to do it. I stand against this proposed budget and I know many of my peers do too. I hope those involved will think about this and change the proposed budget. Community services like the ones I discussed are so important and have a strong impact on people like our elderly, youth, and families. Thank you for your time and I hope you take this email to heart and into consideration.

Yours respectfully,
Alex Andazola

Angela M. Birkett

From: usherne@aol.com
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 11:12 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Lincoln Police Department

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Lincoln City Council:

I support our local police department. I believe they endeavor to treat people fairly and keep everyone in our city safe. There is always room for improvement but the criticisms at a national level are not appropriately leveled against LPD. I am emphatically against any calls to defund the police department. That's anarchy. Public safety is a core function of local government.

It is also my strong opinion the police and other law enforcement agencies had authority to disperse the protestors when they remained after curfew. Those arrested for violating the law should NOT be pardoned. I observed the curfew; I expected my fellow citizens to do the same. There were and are plenty of opportunities to protest and march within the bounds of the law. Those that broke the curfew should be held accountable.

Sincerely,

Christina L. Usher
1920 Beatrice St.
Lincoln, NE 68506

Angela M. Birkett

From: Anthony Oberley <aoberley@att.net>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 11:09 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support the Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I wanted to write and urge you to support our police, who put their lives on the line everyday to protect our community. Please make a public statement supporting the police! Please do not even consider "defunding" or "disbanding" the police. I don't want to see anarchy and violence in Lincoln like we've seen in Minneapolis, Seattle, and Atlanta. This fad of hating the police must stop!

Tony Oberley

Angela M. Birkett

From: mmeyercahac@aol.com
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 11:04 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Keep funding for the police department

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Lincoln NE City Council Members,

I am writing to you in regards to **keeping funding of our police department**. Yelling the loudest doesn't always make things safer for anyone, in fact it does the opposite. It seems to me that the police officers are diamonds in the rough, at this stage. Please help polish them with better training and not discard what we already have invested in them. We need them. This BLM movement was important but has gone beyond that now. All lives matter!

This is not a political issue this is a safety issue for everyone not just a select few who believe laws don't apply to them. We have to have justice, people can be heard and noticed in a nonviolent way and by not doing property damage or frightening others.

This is a college town that is continually growing. Our police are very informed about the unlawful activities and threats that is in our city. We have gangs, alcohol, physical abuse and other severe problems here in Lincoln, NE. We need to invest our money wisely into making where we live a better community. Maybe hiring more diversity of people, encouraging others to help make things better.

If we don't have properly trained police then regular citizens will take things into their own hands.

Please, don't throw the baby out with the bath water, we need our police. Please help our current police department to shine like diamonds should shine and be the best run police force in the state for all other towns to use as an example.

Please, please don't buckle under pressure of those who want to destroy and not build up our community.

Best Regards,

Mary Meyer
3520 N 72nd St
Lincoln, NE 68507

Angela M. Birkett

From: Kathleen Lenzen <kmlenzen@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 11:04 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support Lincoln Police!

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

City Council Members,

I would like to add my voice to commend our professional Lincoln Police Department for their work in protecting our city and its residents. The police do their job at great personal risk to themselves and many times their families. Without police to protect citizens and enforce the laws, this city would fall into anarchy!

This recent call to defund police is a cry from anarchists! Anarchists do not respect the rule of law, do not respect other people's property or life. We have seen what a few nights of rioting produce in our city. If this rioting were continued to be allowed without a police presence, and the rioters showed up at your house, what would you do? Who would you call?

Thank you Lincoln Police Department for your professional work! I support you and want you to keep Lincoln, my city safe.

Kathleen Lenzen

Angela M. Birkett

From: Rachel Gaarder <rachel@radiantlincoln.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 11:04 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: DO NOT Defund police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please do not defund police, as we need to keep our first responders to emergency situations and crimes.

Thank you for your service.



Rachel Gaarder
Administrative Assistant
Radiant Church
740 N 70th Street, Lincoln NE 68505
(402) 489-5400
Rachel@RadiantLincoln.com

Angela M. Birkett

From: Vicki Lamb <vlamb7@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 10:29 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support for Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Council Members,

Thank you for your time to consider our concerns as citizens of Lincoln, Nebraska, and the United States of America. Our country has faced many challenging times throughout our history and we have always been able to find a path forward through them. We understand that there are some social, political, and economic issues that have to be dealt with but now is not the time to compromise our beliefs and the aspirations of the majority of your constituents to try to satisfy a small group that has an agenda of revolutionizing our way of life.

A society and an economy without law and order can not exist in any form that would be acceptable to any reasonable person. Defunding law enforcement agencies is a really bad idea and can not be allowed to happen if we support public safety and a healthy economic outlook for everybody. Actually we believe that our law enforcement agencies need more funding for improved technology and the training they need to be successful in their mission going forward.

Without the assurance of safety and the opportunity to succeed people will never be willing to endeavor or take risks to start, grow businesses, provide opportunities for those that need them. It's also hard to imagine that we could ever feel safe to go out in public or even to be in our homes without an adequate level of law enforcement protection.

We are writing this to support law and order and the brave people who serve to ensure the hope of the future of all the people that you were elected to represent.

Rex and Vicki Lamb

Angela M. Birkett

From: Mary Hilton <mamahilton@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 8:56 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Lincoln Loves Its Police Officers

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear City Council Members,

As a citizen of Lincoln and neighbor to three police officers, I know the investment and hard work that the police department has put into developing good relationships within our community. It is a shame that the acts of several bad police officers far away from Lincoln would punish our outstanding police force and wreck the positive impact they are making within our community. Our police protect the public and property, and without them, lawless criminals will bring violence and unrest to our city.

Supporting our police makes common sense and is an essential function of city government. Defunding them would be a dereliction of your duty as council members. Please include this email in the public record.

Sincerely,

Mary Hilton
402-304-7546

Angela M. Birkett

From: Mike Anderson <mike@andersonautogroup.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 8:20 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support of our Police

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please do not consider any effort to defund our Police Department. If we honestly feel that defunding the police is a good idea, then I would ask you if someone breaks in your house and attacks your family, who would you call if the police did not exist? The police exist to uphold our laws and to keep our society safe. This movement comes from the people that are the very ones that are out to destroy what makes America what it is. Please do all you can to continue to allow our police departments to thrive and to keep Lincoln a great city to work and live in.

Sincerely,
Mike

--

Mike Anderson

3201 Yankee Hill Rd

Lincoln, NE 68516

Direct: 402-817-7201

www.andersonautogroup.com

"Buying a new vehicle is difficult largely because you don't know who can trust. We've created a process focused on what you want and need so you get the vehicle you love."

Because People Matter...we will serve your needs by always doing what is right.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Dodge Curtis <curtisdodge23@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 8:01 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Movement to defund the police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

It has come to my attention that the City Council has been receiving emails demanding they defund the police. This is a totally asinine demand and I hope the Council gives it the consideration it is due...NONE.

First off, we can not deny that racism exists, but the Lincoln Police Department is not the cause, nor does it even appear to contribute to the problem. The problem lies in another area but is a discussion for another day.

I'd like to point out how we have laws against fireworks in the city of Lincoln for a very short period of time around July 4th. The number of people who chose to ignore these laws is staggering. During this time period, it is impossible for our police to respond and investigate each complaint.

Now consider what it is going to be like if you defund the police. Fewer (or no) officers are going to be able to enforce traffic laws, respond to accidents, search for missing children, investigate prowlers, burglaries, robberies, etc...the list just goes on and on. It will become the same situation as it is currently with fireworks; laws will be ignored

Don't give into mob rule and think that just because you have a very small portion of the citizenry making noise (many of whom have little life experience), that is what all of the citizens of Lincoln want from the Council.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Jamie Swartz <jamiecswartz@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 7:39 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Good Morning -

I am writing this email in support of the Lincoln Police Department. I am an educator in Lincoln. The police department is an asset to our community and especially our schools. Please continue to fund them with whatever they need to keep our city and it's citizens safe!

Thank you!

Jamie Swartz

Angela M. Birkett

From: Jody Brott <brottjody2@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 7:20 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Budget Thoughts

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Members of the Lincoln, NE City Council,

2020 has definitely been a year of unexpected challenges and events that are making us all evaluate and look at things differently.

You have and continue to hear from individuals who believe that Defunding the Lincoln Police Department is the answer.

I ask you to continue to fund the Lincoln Police Department at the highest level you fiscally can. You have one of the best Police Departments in the Country and possibly the world. In the 30+ years I have lived in Lincoln, NE and interacted with your Police Department, they have been professional and committed to serving the citizens of this community.

The citizens(both young and old) who have been found and returned to their homes, the individuals who are still alive because a Police Officer was able to successfully interrupt their suicide attempt, the citizens who called due to medical distress that are still alive in part because a Police Officer got there and administered CPR or some other life saving procedure while waiting for medical, the individuals who have had their lives turned upside down because of a criminals actions and were comforted and helped by the actions of a Lincoln Police Officer are just a few of the many reasons we NEED the Lincoln Police Department.

The Lincoln Police Department is one of the best city services you have to offer the citizens of Lincoln, NE.

They stand on the front line between us and the criminal element. They have taken the bullet for us in the past and as we saw in the disturbances a few weeks ago, they stood there to protect property of the City and the citizens of Lincoln at great cost to some of their members.

I would never condone excessive force by anyone. As I watched the videos of some of the recent events I kept wondering why people think that violating a law is OK and the police should just idly stand by and watch.

Please take a hard look at the total picture of the Lincoln Police Department and acknowledge the Professional, Caring and Exceptional force of men and women you employ. They are worth every penny the City of Lincoln spends on them.

Thank you for taking time to listen to my thoughts. Thank you for taking the time to serve the City of Lincoln as a member of the City Council.

Respectfully,

Jody J. Brott
402-904-1587 (text is best)

Angela M. Birkett

From: Ann Schriener <annschrin@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 6:47 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Our police department is one of the most important organizations in our city. They keep us safe. All of my interactions with our police have been great. Please do not consider defunding them.
Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Pat Eiche <pat-eiche-05@neb.rr.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 6:07 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Defund Police Dept.

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please, please vote **NO** to defund our Police Department. They are a very vital part of our city.

Thank you,
Pat Eiche, Lincoln, NE

I am using the Free version of [SPAMfighter](#).
SPAMfighter has removed 1324 of my spam emails to date.

Do you have a [slow PC?](#) Try a free scan!

Angela M. Birkett

From: Amanda Ripley <ajb4113@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 10:02 PM
To: Council Packet; Mayor
Subject: Defunding LPD

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Good evening, I have been very concerned about talk of defunding the police departments in general but specifically LPD. I have worked as a nurse at the mental health center. I cannot imagine doing that job without the help of LPD. That have always been professional. When the clients escalated or were high on drugs, there is no way we could have safely taken control of the situation without the help of lpd. Staff and other clients would have been in danger had lpd not come in to help us get control.

If you as city council members have not done a ride along, I would strongly encourage it once it is safe to do so. I encourage you to hold on making any quick decisions until you have spent a night in an officer's shoes having to make quick decisions for the well being of all involved. The police need your support during this volatile time, not being forced to second guess their every move, wondering if the other person will spin a story in their favor gerring good police fired.

I have no objection to trying to add social workers to the mental health calls, but last I knew, many are overworked and burned out, not looking for one more potentially dangerous situation to walk into.

I ask that if anything you add body cameras and additional police to help keep them accountable and prevent burn out. I know when I am exhausted after working a long day, my fuse is a lot shorter. Police are only human. Yes, we hold them to a high standard, but they are not superhuman.

It appears to me that people calling to defund the police, have no clue what a police officers job entails. I only touched on the mental health aspect, there are so many more parts to their job.

I am happy to talk to any of you personally. I appreciate your time and willingness to listen.

Amanda Ripley, 6131 Chatsworth Ln, Lincoln, NE 68516 402-314-2440

Angela M. Birkett

From: Debi <debideshon@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 9:27 PM
To: Mayor; Council Packet
Subject: Support Police Budget

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

To the Honorable Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird and members of the Lincoln City Council,

As a taxpayer here in Lincoln, I am writing this to support the budget for the Police. I feel we need to stop running on emotions, calm down and use logic and wisdom which God has given us. We can't go without police. It would be a big mistake at this time in our country and only make the problems intensified. Criminals won't stop and knowing the police are defunded would only promote crime. Instead, why not spend money to train the officers on how to deescalate the situations more efficiently.

Thank you for your time and may God bless you. Use God's wisdom in all matters!

Concerned Citizen,
Debi DeShon

Angela M. Birkett

From: Patrick Krautkremer <pakraut11@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 9:21 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support for Lincoln Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Just wanted to let you know that I support the dedication of the Lincoln Police Department.

I will vote against any defunding of this department.
Thanks,

Patrick Krautkremer
2423 N 88th street
Lincoln, NE 68507

Angela M. Birkett

From: Tara King <camdensmomma01@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 9:18 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Please do not Defund the Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Hello.

I am sure you have heard so many different things from both sides of this issue. I want to explain my experience with LPD.

My son, Camden, was killed in a horrific car crash 2 years ago. The person that was responsible was going 85 in a 30, and of course lied to police on the scene. The AMAZING detectives, street cops, reconstruction experts... all of these amazing people helped to get justice for my little boy. They spent tireless hours, days ... weeks combing thru the details, leaving no stone unturned. They also were the kindest, sweetest, most empathic people to me. I remember them ALL caring. It was more than just a job. It was a purpose.

Yes, there are bad people out there. And yes, a few of those may have badge. But that doesn't represent the entirety of the polic department and all the GOOD they do.

Please think about this. Please know we need them. They protect and serve, and they CARE.

Kindest Regards,

Tara King

Angela M. Birkett

From: Bobrowski <mbobrowski@neb.rr.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 8:52 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Defunding the police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Hello!

I am writing to add my concern to those that want to defund the police.
We absolutely need the police department to maintain order in Lincoln.
The whole police department should not be judged by the actions of a few, very few!

As it is, the police do not earn enough money since each day they put their lives "on the line".

Thank you,

MaryAnn & Bob Bobrowski

Angela M. Birkett

From: Duane <meyers9@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 8:27 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Defund LPD Requests

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I have noted from an article in the Lincoln Journal Star that there are requests to defund the Lincoln Police Department.

(https://journalstar.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/city-called-on-to-defund-lincoln-police-hold-itself-liable-for-protester-injuries/article_591ef577-43c1-5977-b76a-2b40f59f35ea.html)

I am writing to the council to express my strong support of the LPD and urge the council to not be misguided in considering such a dangerous course of action. In the most recent city elections the understaffed LPD was a campaign issue and the mayor (then candidate) supported hiring additional officers due to the Department being "understaffed for the past 25 years and having one of the lowest staffed departments in the nation..."

(<https://www.leirionforlincoln.com/lincoln-police-union-endorses-leirion/>).

Continuing to strengthen the LPD with increased staffing, training, and equipment is one of the core responsibilities of city government.

Failing to do so is a dereliction of your duties as members of the city council to provide for the public safety.

Arguments for defunding police are misguided, insincere, dangerous, and simply not well thought out. We need more officers in the LPD, not less. I urge you again to stand strong and responsible in support of our police department.

Duane Meyer
3520 N. 72nd St.
Lincoln, NE 68507

Angela M. Birkett

From: Lori McKeon <lmckeon88@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 7:39 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Do not defund the police dept. Dumbest idea ever

Lori McKeon

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Jan Newell <jnewyo@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 7:34 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Sending Police hugs!

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

In our society today, there are many things that are very upsetting to me. One of the most sickening things is the way our police are treated. There are troubled people who harm others in many walks of life, but loyal people do not blame the whole for what a few have done!

Please see that our police and all employees are paid well, provided good support and training, and let them know that they are needed and appreciated in Lincoln, NE

Jan Newell
Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Jim Holstein <fjh7540@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 7:25 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Lincoln Police Dept

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I want all of you city council members to know how much I admire the work of the Lincoln Police Department. They may not be perfect, but they do a great job overall and deserve our support for a difficult job well done.
Respectfully, Frederick J. Holstein

Angela M. Birkett

From: Lou Nigro <lou@lahomebuilders.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 7:06 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: LPD Funding

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

City Council of Lincoln,

I have recently become aware of calls to defund the Lincoln Police and am writing to express my concern. I would like my voice heard on this matter. I have lived in Nebraska my entire life and in Lincoln since 1981. I am a veteran, I have prior law enforcement experience and I am a small business owner. As a taxpayer and property owner in this community I do not support the idea that we must punish our community and citizens because of the actions of one police officer in a Minnesota city. That officer's bad actions belong to him. To bend to the political rants of some who hope to gain from this tragedy will only widen the social gap infecting our country. Please do not give this dangerous idea even a small amount of consideration.

The consequences of a weakened police force will only diminish our City, not make it more accepting and fair. Our officers are well trained and led by a man who is professional, seasoned, and who truly cares about [Lincoln](#). If you reduce the effectiveness of our police force then who do we call when we are threatened? When a child goes missing? When God forbids someone enters one of our children's school with the intent to do harm? Do we call you? The Mayor? How about a politician who thinks only certain lives matter? Our police officers will always answer this call, each and every time, even if you cut their pay or benefits. Please do not take away the resource our police officers need to protect our City.

Will you answer the call to protect the people who elected you? I sincerely hope so.

Respectfully,

Lou Nigro
[6700 Shamrock Rd.](#)

Angela M. Birkett

From: Lydia Arnold <wlarnold20@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 5:08 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Please don't defund police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I am very grateful for our Police Department.

Yes to changes, as needed, in line with the Justice Act recently introduced in the Senate. But a HUGE "No!!" to defunding!

I find it incredible to think defunding police is the way to go. I don't have the words to express my astonishment.

I appreciate our law enforcement. Very very much. I would feel very unsafe without them.

Sincerely,
Lydia Arnold
5210 Ervin Street

Angela M. Birkett

From: Dave and Linda Thurber <dt42301@windstream.net>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 2:30 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support for the Lincoln Police Department

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

It is disappointing to see members of the community label all police as racist and to demand that our local government ban their existence. For as much as they are quick to point to the difference between protesters and rioters, they disregard that same equality to police officers. They have accused Lincoln Police officers of committing offenses that have occurred in other cities without any supporting evidence. They have blindly supported the concept that we don't need police.

The true fact is that we do need police officers for enforcement of our municipal ordinances and state statutes. Unfortunately decades of assigning the police to respond to calls such as mental health investigations and disruptive children in the classroom has taken them away from their responsibilities as outlined in Lincoln Municipal Code.

[2.32.020 Department Personnel; Responsibilities.](#)

The Police Department shall consist of all the duly appointed and commissioned police officers of the city, and of the authorized staff personnel. The Chief of Police shall have the immediate charge of the police, and the Chief and the police officers shall have the power and the duty to arrest all offenders against the laws of the state or the ordinances of the city in the same manner as the sheriff or constable, and to keep such offenders in the county jail or other place to prevent their escape, until a trial or examination may be held before a proper officer. The Chief shall have the same power as a sheriff or a constable in relation to all criminal matters and all process issued by the county court. (Ord. 15391 §2; January 8, 1990: P.C. §2.28.020: Ord. 12724 §1; October 29, 1979: prior Ord. 7280 §2; August 22, 1960).

During my 38 year career as a police dispatcher I have seen the Lincoln Police Department grow and change for the better. Community policing has a great impact on the City of Lincoln. Residents get a chance to know the officers that patrol their neighborhoods. School resource officers provide not only protection but serve as a role model and mentor for many children.

We need to remind the citizens that the Lincoln Police Department has been accredited through CALEA since 1989. CALEA provides the gold standard. They regularly update the standards to be in line with the best practices in police work. Below is a link to CALEA's website outlining the benefits of being accredited.

<https://www.calea.org/benefits-accreditation>

Please feel free to contact me.

Linda Thurber

Angela M. Birkett

From: sheri mccall <sherimccall62@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 1:47 PM
To: Council Packet

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

P.S. I hope and pray you're taking into consideration those of us who support the police and all Law enforcement, the brave men and women who put their lives in the line to serve and protect our citizens. Thank you and have a blessed week! #BackTheBlue

Angela M. Birkett

From: The Magic sisters <ecmagic428@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 11:55 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Please don't defund the police!

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please do not defund the police department! It's common sense we need police to protect! We do not need a purge every day! Keep us safe!

Angela M. Birkett

From: kim christiansen <kimbud2@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 10:11 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Pro-police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Good morning. I am writing this email to let you know I am pro-police. I am a single woman, I live alone. I have been a victim of domestic abuse. I have been a victim of sexual abuse. I have been stalked by an exboyfriend for years. The police have helped me in these cases. I am no longer a victim. I believe that defunding / dismantling the police could once again make me and others like me a victim once again. I will not allow that to be the case. As I am writing this I am in the process of taking the steps necessary to protect myself. You even discussing this is honestly terrifying to me. I understand some changes should be addressed but taking either or both of these steps is asinine! Please do not go down this path. Thank you for taking the time to read this email. Have a very blessed day!
Kim Christiansen

Angela M. Birkett

From: KATHRYN HAMERSKY <hamerte@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 9:01 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Please do NOT defund our police department

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Council Members:

I respectfully request that you do not even consider defunding our wonderful police department. I can not even image how horribly different our city would be without their protection and involvement in our fair city. They do so much good for the citizens of Lincoln I can't believe this is even a thought!

Also why can't kids play on playgrounds? This is ridiculous ! Put up signs saying play at your own risk. I personally don't have any kids of the age to play on play grounds, but would love to see the kids be able to play again.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Ponte-Hamersky
930 Eldon Drive
Lincoln, NE 68510

Angela M. Birkett

From: Chris Watson <cawatson5@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 8:34 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police funding

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Council Members,

I'd like to voice my support for maintaining or increasing funding for the Lincoln Police Department. The thought of defunding should never be considered. The people of this city deserve the safety provided by LPD. I expect better from my city council members and I'm outraged that this would be up for discussion.

Thank you.

-Chris Watson

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Angela M. Birkett

From: Crystal Brown <dynamitecrystals@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 12:05 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Please do NOT defund our police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

To whom it may concern,

I am a NOT in support of defunding the police in Lincoln, Nebraska I do understand there are bad police. What I also understand that in every line of work there are bad people (including politicians). I believe the police across The United States of America have gotten a bad reputation because that is only what the media reports on. If they reported on all of the good things the police did instead of reporting the negative things we could see a turn around. I am part of the silent majority who would be very heartbroken to see the defunding of our police. I do believe they do protect and serve us all equally, if they didn't all of us who were not white would be dead or badly hurt like the political left claims that is all the police have ever done, I strongly disagree with those lies. If they truly believed that, the part of the city they took over in Seattle, Washington would not have people walking around with guns and trying to keep people accountable to the "laws" they put forth, the problem they are having is, the citizens of CHAZ/CHOP do not see these "regular" people as an authority, they tell them, "you are not the cops, I don't have to listen to you" they have major problems keeping order without the REAL POLICE. I only hope and pray, to our Almighty God that you, who were voted in charge, you who we trusted to do the right things and keep us ALL safe, would have the guts to stand up for what is right and say, "We will back our police officers, we will keep our departments open" please, do NOT defund the Lincoln Police Department. We need to keep our city safe, not only for us but also for our children and grandchildren and great grandchildren and the many generations that may come years later. Let's not look back and regret the wrong decision of defunding police department.

Thank you for reading this and letting us have a voice.

-Crystal

Angela M. Birkett

From: Sue Kouma Johnson <suekoumajohnson@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 10:38 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Do not defund the police!

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

To whom it may concern,

I have just heard that there have been numerous requests to defund our police. Please do not do that, as we need law and order, most especially during this time of turbulence.

I have always had good experiences with and trust in our police here in Lincoln. I believe we have a fair and just police force here, and I really appreciate all that they do to keep our town safe and peaceful.

Sincerely,
Sue Kouma Johnson

Angela M. Birkett

From: Laura Nigro <laura.nigro11@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 10:27 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Lincoln Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Good Evening,

I am writing to express my concern regarding calls to defund the Lincoln Police. As a longtime Lincoln resident and taxpayer, I would strongly urge you not to defund the Lincoln Police. I have seen nothing but professionalism and courtesy from the LPD officers in which I have interacted with. I believe LPD is an upstanding organization that truly exemplifies their motto of, "leadership, performance, and dedication." Defunding the police would have disastrous consequences that I do not think we can even comprehend at this time. Police officers provide the citizens of Lincoln with a sense of safety and protection. LPD has done nothing which would warrant its defunding. I would urge you to look at the facts and set aside the emotion that is driving the call to defund the police. There has been no evidence of racism within LPD nor have there been any unjustified shootings or use of force on citizens. Something bad happened in Minneapolis, which involved a couple of bad officers. Unfortunately, every profession, not just law enforcement, has bad people. This single incident is not reflective of the Minneapolis police department as a whole and is certainly not reflective of LPD and all police officers around the country. The City of Lincoln should not have to pay for the mistake of a couple bad police officers in another city. I would not feel safe nor live in the City of Lincoln without a police force, and I imagine that most Lincoln citizens feel this same way.

Very Respectfully,

Laura Nigro

Angela M. Birkett

From: Cindi Card <huskercindi@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 9:12 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support for our police - please do not defund them!

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I'm horrified to imagine my city defunding the Lincoln Police Department. Instead of defunding, we should be adding to their number. Please take a public stand in favor of our proud men and women who wear the blue.

Thank you,

Cindi Card

5042 Knox St, Lincoln, NE 68504

Angela M. Birkett

From: Lois Osburn <lmo4jesus@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 8:17 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Fund Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I just wanted you to know I'm not in favor of defunding the Police Dept. There are many many good cops who are doing their best to help others while maintaining order. Perhaps there needs to be some additional training with accountability attached. Please please do not pass an order to defund our Police Dept.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Angela M. Birkett

From: eldon stanley <erssks@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 8:15 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Please NEVER consider defunding our police force!!!!

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

As a business owner in Lincoln, and having friends and relatives who have served faithfully and honestly in law enforcement for many many years I am amazed that the action of a few bad cops, who have been punished and have been charged with crimes not befitting of a police officer can destroy the reputation of the majority of honest and committed men and women who wear a badge. They put their lives on the line daily to protect those same people who now want to take away their careers of serving the honest and law abiding citizens in this country. To defund our police is going down a dangerous path that several cities in this country will soon experience. Please for the sake of our beautiful city consider what effect this might have and vote NO!!!

Eldon Stanley

Angela M. Birkett

From: Mark Ruhl <2markruhl@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 7:53 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support Police Force in Lincoln

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Lincoln City Council Members:

I fully support funding the police force in Lincoln. I know several fine officers in Lincoln who are men of character and make sacrifices for the good of our community. I have had good experiences with the police men with whom I have come in contact. These men have excellent families that they support financially. If we do not pay them a decent wage, we can only expect our community to deteriorate.

Thanks!
Mark Ruhl

Angela M. Birkett

From: Janiece Goin <goinherbs.com@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 7:34 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support the police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

We hope you see the need to support the police for the safety of all citizens. Don't get caught up in the emotions that are in control now.

Janiece & Phil Goin, NHC
Certified Weight Loss, Wellness & Lifestyle Coaches
Certified in Aromatherapy, Iridology, Herbology
mysp.com/goinherbs
Goinherbs.com
We keep you goin!
402-788-2241

Angela M. Birkett

From: Patricia Liedle <sunshine.liedle@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 6:45 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Keep Our Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Defunding the Lincoln Police would be detrimental to Lincoln, NE. Having Law and Order is what makes a city safer. If we defund our police we are going to end up being like third world countries. When the police don't come when called upon everyone is going to complain about that next.

All Lives Matter not just Black. White, Black, Asian, Spanish, etc. are all lives that matter in the U.S. and in Lincoln, NE.

Please support our Police Force for the safety of our city.

Thank you

Tricia Liedle
Rick Liedle
Tanner Liedle

Angela M. Birkett

From: sheri mccall <sherimccall62@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 6:31 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Defunding police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

To whom it may concern:

I'm writing to implore you, PLEASE do NOT give in to those who are asking/demanding to defund the police! I am not a resident of Lancaster county, but do have grandchildren that are, and I fear for their safety if this ludicrous idea comes to fruition! Thank you from a VERY concerned grandmother.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Jodi Osborn <jodiosborn1@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 4:54 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: LPD

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I, Jodi Osborn, support my local police. I believe some changes are necessary, however, I do not want to defund our police in Lincoln NE or anywhere for that matter.
Thank you for allowing my voice to be heard.

Jodi Osborn

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Dave-Karen Cronin <drcronin81@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 4:53 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police Department

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

If you are a police officer, sheriff's deputy, state patrol, firefighter, emergency responder, or a member of the military, please know that there are more of us who respect and support you than there are of those who don't. Thank you for doing what you do. It is time for those of us with enough courage to show our support by having these people's backs. I would encourage those who feel the same to copy and post.

USUS

Please do not let the few police officers who have made poor decisions influence the respect and admiration that the majority of the people have for our police department in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Sincerely,
Karen Cronin

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Rathbun Scott <huskerskott@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 4:34 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Do not defund police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please don't cut off your nose despite your face with the police. CHAZ IS NOT WORKING..are there bad police? ... yes...are there bad priests? ..yes....is their bad in humanity yes? ... Hold EVERYONE accountable for their actions criminals and police....pulling funds does not equal peace...

Thank you for your time and service to Lincoln

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Angela M. Birkett

From: James Ekeler <jjlelincoln@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 4:29 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Defunding police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Such a bad idea. A few bad apples dose not mean the whole tree is rotten.
ALL organizations including goverment have bad people in them.
Defunding will only insure that we will get MORE bad cops . Think about it.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Angela M. Birkett

From: Sian Maxwell <Irm2b1273@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 4:13 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Lincoln City Counsel,

I plead to you, please soften your hearts and open your minds to what we, police families are going through.

Do not defund or dismantle our police. Support them and they will protect Lincoln.

Sian Maxwell

Sent from my iPhone, have a blessed day!

Sent from my iPhone, have a blessed day!

Angela M. Birkett

From: Linda Egr <llegr2@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 4:02 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Lincoln police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Defunding our police department is absolutely crazy! I know a couple of cops that are great people and have done a lot for the Lincoln community. If the police are not supported, they will resign, we will move, or never again support a downtown business or event. Please consider the safety issues for your citizens. So afraid of what is a peaceful city to become one of crime and violence☹️

Sent from my iPad

Angela M. Birkett

From: Britt Weiser <bdweiser@windstream.net>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 3:36 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: funding for police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear City Council,

It has been brought to my attention that you may be receiving a lot of emails suggesting that you defund the police. I strongly urge you to resist these requests.

As you know, the Lincoln police department's staffing per 1000 population, is at the low end when compared to cities of similar size. Currently we enjoy a relatively low crime rate. I fear that any reductions in police funding will result in increasing crime rates. And once the crime rates soar, it may be difficult to reduce them back to our current levels. I have watched video of the George Floyd murder, by the police officer. I am as disgusted as everyone else that this happened. We need to continue training and monitoring our police officers, and weed the bad cops out as soon as they cross the line. But we shouldn't go to any extreme measures, during the heat of the current crisis, to defund the police and jeopardize the safety of Lincoln citizens. Please don't make any knee-jerk decisions that we will all regret later.

thanks

Britt Weiser
6148 S 94th St, Lincoln

Angela M. Birkett

From: David Wiegand <clear28695@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 2:34 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Some thoughts on FORCE

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Lincoln City Council,

I support the Lincoln Police Department, a law enFORCEment agency.
Why? Because I support the legitimate use of FORCE in support of civil law and order.

Some of you are going to exclaim, "Oh but we can't use FORCE!"
Oh really? So you don't use force? Ha!
Did you button your shirt today?
Did you drive your car?
Did you prepare a meal, and eat it?
Did you move your body today?
Then,...you used force.

Force isn't "bad." It isn't "good."
It's simply energy directed in a particular direction.
This "universe" is a FORCE universe.
You use "force" all the time, or you don't live in this "universe" as a living being. Maybe a ROCK, but certainly NOT a sentient living being.
ONLY when faced by irrational people is "force" against them necessary.
Things, or people which are irrational are handled by force in ration to their irrationality.
Non living things and energy sources, like a waterfall, a wind turbine, an electric generator, are handled ONLY by force.
Living beings, animals, and plants, are handled by force less and less as they are found to be logical, rational, and sentient.
A FULLY logical person not only should NOT be handled by force, but perhaps only in a catastrophic emergency CAN be handled by force.

The use of force CAN have two sides, one in support of the overall "good," and the other in support of chaos and disorder.
Of course, you can simply abandon ALL use of force, but if you do, look out! If you continue in THIS manner, you "is gonna be" a ROCK in short order.
Reminds me of our current Mayor Baird. She has NO idea how to responsibly use FORCE to maintain good order.
Are you ROCKS or sentient beings?
Your choice.

Sincerely,
Rev. David F. Wiegand
5311 Greenwood Street
Lincoln, NE 68504

Angela M. Birkett

From: Kathy Hoffart <khoffart712@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 2:23 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Lincoln Police Dept.

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I sincerely hope that you are not considering reducing or defunding our Lincoln Police Dept. That would be a tragic mistake for the citizens of Lincoln.

As a life-long member of Lincoln(67 years) and employee of a major local bank, then Lincoln Public School, I have had many opportunities to interact with members of our police force. I have never been mistreated and always treated with respect. I have witnessed countless encounters that were conducted with kindness and appropriate behavior for each situation. I have never encountered a police employee who expressed a racist attitude or spoke in a demeaning/derogatory way to anyone regardless of their color, ethnicity or alternative lifestyle.

As a School Secretary, I have had to call the police to help with difficult situations and they were always resolved in a way that was sensitive to the student's needs.

I have also observed 100's of interaction between LPD employees and our LPS students that were positive and supportive. Many times these were the student's first encounter with a police officer...and that goes a long way towards appreciating their place in our community. They make them feel safe and protected in a world that does not always feel warm and fuzzy.

My own children have often spoken about their fond memories regarding a Drug Free Program Officer from LPD.

I have worked with officers on projects and in other work situations, and find them to be open to selfless service in our community

I would support them in any way for the jobs that they perform in our town.

They are not paid enough for the sacrifices that they and their families make on a daily basis.

Thank you,
Kathy Hoffart

PS. Over the last 20 years, I have heard, from several sources, that Lincoln has a lower that necessary Officer to Population ratio...so please do not consider reducing their numbers or funding, which may cause our good public servants to seek employment elsewhere.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Marcy <tinteram@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 2:22 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Supporting the Lincoln Nebraska police department

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I totally support our local police department and reject the idea of any defunding of this group. I hate to think what our city, state, country would be like without these folks.

Martha Tintera

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Margaret Vencil <mvencil@icloud.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 1:52 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Need our Police Dept!

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

City Council,
I am a citizen of Lincoln that supports our police Dept! We need them to protect law and order in our city! They are doing a great job for the city of Lincoln! Do not defund the police Dept!
Thank you!
Margaret Vencil

Angela M. Birkett

From: Patty Styron <pstyron@live.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 1:08 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear City Council,
I consider the Police Dept. a very important and essential part of our dear city. We need to keep law, order and safety in our city.

Sincerely,
Patty Styron

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Angela M. Birkett

From: mary harper <mharper55@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 1:06 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support the police!

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I am very much against any proposal to defund the police in our community.
Lincoln would not be a safe place to live and raise our families if we're did not have the police in our city.

Bob and Mary Harper

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Angela M. Birkett

From: carol thoms <cthoms2@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 12:24 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Keep Lincoln Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please continue to fund Lincoln's police department... they do an excellent job of keeping our city safe for all lives

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Angela M. Birkett

From: Jesica Tiangco <jtiangco5621@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 11:50 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: I support the police!

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I appreciate our Lincoln Police for all they do for us and for putting themselves in danger on a daily basis. I know people who work in the office at the court and at the sheriff station and I hear wonderful things about these people not as officers but as people because that's who they are and I appreciate all you do. I understand that this world has gotten a little chaotic when it comes to the Outlook of a police officer but one bad egg does not mean we need to treat everyone terrible. I support you all and I thank you all!

Jesica Tiangco

Angela M. Birkett

From: Nancy Melichar <nmelichar@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 11:12 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Lincoln Police Funding

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I am very opposed to any type of defunding of our Lincoln Police Department. Their budget barely covers necessities already and their services are very valuable to our community. They do a wonderful job and I have been proud to live in Lincoln and have always felt safe anywhere I go until the riots. A few bad apples does not mean the whole system is broke and all police are bad.

I am concerned with the lack of support most of our city council and Mayor has given to our police force. We have a good police department and I have been not happy with the negative press and no support you or our Mayor has given them.

Our police officers risk their lives EVERY DAY for our city. I was horrified how they had to stand in front of a mob getting bottles of gasoline thrown at them and fireworks also shot at them in an attempt to light them on fire. And getting shot at trying to protect city buildings was terrible. I did not see any of you or our Mayor standing with them at the time. That is why a curfew was important to keep the good people safe after dark when the bad things happen.

We had over 10 million dollars worth of destruction to our city, and you want to defund the police? What sense does that make! They were not "peaceful protesters" doing the destruction. And I heard the mayor saying the curfews were a mistake. Makes no sense. We did not have the level of destruction that happened the first few nights once it was implemented.

And there was no praise or support for the police from our officials. They just had to stand there and get urine thrown at them and threatening explosives. And there were complaints on rubber bullets being used when people were breaking the law that was in place to protect the "innocent" protesters and our public buildings.

Did anyone bother to look at the number of injuries the police had from all the "peaceful" protesters? Or remember the amount of destruction made to our city!

Don't make a knee jerk decision and defund our police department. Lincoln NE. is NOT Minneapolis Minnesota. We have a very nice city and normally a safe city to live in, thanks to our police.

You and our Mayor need to step up and show your support for our police department. Taking money from the police puts our community at risk.

I know they have asked for funding for the Resource Officers and denied due to lack of funds. Those Resource Officers do a world of good in the schools. I have personally seen the work and involvement they have had with our youth at school. They are doing a great job. We need the youth to know they can reach out to police, respect them, feel safe and keep communication open. Do NOT take them out of our schools, that would be a huge step backwards if our goal is to bring our communities and police together.

I think every one of you and the Mayor needs to ride with the police on a night shift for at least a week to see the work they do. Let's see if you want to be the first one to step out of the car to address an act of violence or theft and not know if they have a weapon or if a person is high on drugs and crazy; and make sure you don't use "excessive force" to restrain them. I don't think pretty please put your hands behind your back works in real life most of the time. Get your facts and first hand experience first before making changes on what really goes on.

Lincoln has been nationally rated many times as a great place to live and raise a family. Don't make knee jerk changes that put that at risk. Get your facts together. I agree other programs may need funding but it is a huge mistake to take it from our police department.

Sincerely,
Nancy Melichar
Lincoln NE.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Angela M. Birkett

From: bob knapp <archerhunter51@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 10:53 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Re: Support of LPD

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

On Fri, Jun 19, 2020, 21:37 bob knapp <archerhunter51@gmail.com> wrote:

Without the LPD and Lancaster Co. Sheriff's Office who would we turn to? Are we to rely on these rioters to uphold our laws? Our local "leaders" have shown that they will not enforce the law. I am a vet, a father and I vote. I also have a long memory.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Mark Borchardt <pmaborchardt@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 9:30 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Hello

Do not defund the Police. Lincoln needs to continue to have fine men and women of the LPD serving our community, protecting our community, and keeping/defending the law.

We cannot be a society of lawlessness.

In support of our me and women in blue,
Annette Borchardt

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Angela M. Birkett

From: Mark Borchardt <mborchardt6@icloud.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 8:45 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police department

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Hello,

My name is Mark Borchardt. I have been a citizen of Lincoln for a number of years. I would like you to keep all monies for the Lincoln Police Department in tact. LPD works hard to keep Lincoln safe and I personally enjoy the feeling of safety they provide. My interactions with various officers has always been positive.

Thank you for keeping LPD fully funded.

Sincerely,

Mark Borchardt

Angela M. Birkett

From: Victoria Davis <vldavis1962@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 8:39 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Do NOT Defund LPD

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Hello,

I am not a Lincoln resident but I shop in Lincoln and three of my adult children live in Lincoln. The fourth adult child works in Lincoln and shops in Lincoln. The police came to his rescue when he got locked in at the 48 & O Walgreens Tuesday night (The manager didn't check the bathroom before locking up.) I watch my granddaughters at the house of one of them in Lincoln. I shop in Lincoln. I go to events in Lincoln. I go to church in Lincoln.

Therefore, I support the LPD to NOT be defunded! From what I understand they have already changed their policies on areas that other police departments in the country are looking at defunding (mental health calls, for example, go to Blue Valley Behavioral and another agency).

Please do NOT defund the Lincoln Police Department!

Sincerely,

Victoria Lynn Davis
1101 202nd Street
Eagle, NE 68347
402-304-6389

Angela M. Birkett

From: Rick Laswell <rlaswell@att.net>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 8:22 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: City of Lincoln NE / opposed to defunding police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Members of the Lincoln City Council,
I support our local law enforcement and strongly oppose any consideration of our local government defunding the Police Dept. The Lincoln Police Department is a vital asset in maintaining law and order in our city that serves and protects my family and all other individuals in their jurisdiction. If you want to solve a “social issue” start at the root of the problem which is the heart of people ; defunding the police department will only open a pathway for more civil unrest and injustice.

I appreciate your service to our city and listening to my voice,
Richard Laswell

Rick Laswell
6001 Dobson’s Ct / Lincoln NE 68516
816.215.5602
rlaswell@att.net

Angela M. Birkett

From: Brenda Merry <bmerry@windstream.net>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 8:06 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Kepp our poplice!

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Our community relies on law and order.
We should not be swayed by what the rest of the world is doing, even if it seems to be the popular thing.
Please please, do not take away our police force.

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS MY NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

Brenda Merry
brenda.merry1017@gmail.com
402-560-0346

Angela M. Birkett

From: MARGARET SANDOZ <msandoz@niobraraschools.org>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 7:57 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support for LPD

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

To Whom It May Concern:

It is so sad to see the destruction and damage protesters have made to our Capital City of Nebraska. Lincoln is a place that rural Nebraskans, such as me, are proud of and it represents the great state we live. With the recent unrest and the continued disrespect and dangerous situations that Lincoln Police Department officers have encountered, it is easy to question why any of them would want to continue to be the recipients of this abuse.

As Mayor and City Council members it is your duty to support the Lincoln Police Department and their officers to the greatest extent possible. There are “bad” people in any profession, however, Lincoln Police work with their officers, provide training, support, work to build relationships in the community and overall are a Nationwide model for an effective and proactive police department. Accountability is present and they work to improve their officers each day.

As a rural citizen of the State of Nebraska, it would be very difficult for me to honestly say I would visit Lincoln if there was a lack of law enforcement officers in the city of Lincoln. Without the knowledge of safety and police protection I will not risk taking my family into any situation such as those recently seen in the media that have existed in Lincoln during the protests.

The Lincoln Police Department represents the “Good People” of the city. The “Bad People” are those that are breaking the laws that have been established by our voted representatives. If Lincoln, Nebraska does not stand behind their police department what else is going to happen and who is going to keep the people of this state safe and away from danger while visiting the city for sporting, music, food, and entertainment events? What about the residents of Lincoln? How are they to think that staying in a city that does not support their law enforcement is the right thing to do? How will the fire department work if the police aren’t there to enter and clear the area first? The police have so many “jobs” that all the other support services rely upon, how will they function and do their jobs without the cooperation of LPD?

I firmly believe that the Lincoln Police Department must always be supported by your offices and must always have the necessary resources to do their jobs appropriately and with pride. They represent the City of Lincoln and without them I am sad to think there would no longer be a prestige and respect for the city that has existed up to this point.

A concerned citizen of Nebraska,

Margaret Sandoz

Angela M. Birkett

From: BECKY WRIGHT <blwright53@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 7:18 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support law enforcement

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I have my vote and I always use it. Very disappointed in our city. Of course we support police. But like any employer you need to be able to terminate or redirect employment for anyone not suited to the work. That applies to police, teachers, all government agencies. Not being able to have this decision making power is part of the problem. I refer to myself as a "recovering Democrat". The party left me and my values, they have moved way too far left.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Teri Thomsen <terithomsen440@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 1:31 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Lincoln Police Department Funding

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Council Members,

I have been a Lincoln homeowner for the last 20 years and ABSOLUTELY want my taxes to support our Lincoln Police Department.
DO NOT defund them!

I live next to Gateway Mall and since 1999, I have had MULTIPLE mailboxes damaged, the back window of my vehicle SHOT OUT while parked overnight in my own driveway, a vehicle landed UPSIDE DOWN in my front yard as the result of a driver running a stop sign and causing an accident, and 1/3 of a front yard tree crashed down in an overnight storm blocking the street. In all these events, the Lincoln Police were called and dispatched. The responding officers were both helpful and efficient in doing their jobs. Two officers even went above and beyond in helping me remove tree limbs out of the street in the middle of the night, which I will be forever grateful.

As our city continues to grow, I expect both the police and fire department budgets to INCREASE to adequately serve and protect ALL citizens of our Lincoln community.

If you are looking for areas to cut/save money, may I suggest two that immediately came to mind:

1. Reduce the SIZE of buses based on customer use per route. -- I see empty full-sized buses driving thru the mall on a regular basis, not just during the COVID shutdown months this year. Save some gas and help our planet - get some smaller vehicles.
2. Relocate the contents to other branches and then permanently close the Downtown Library. Offer early retirement, reduce hours and reassign or "right-size" staff affected.

Thank you for your time,

Teri Thomsen
440 N. Cotner Blvd.
Lincoln, NE 68505

Angela M. Birkett

From: Aletha Sands <asands@neb.rr.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:43 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Defunding the police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

My name is Aletha Sands a tax paying citizen of lincoln & I strongly discourage you from defunding our police. I support the Lincoln Police Department and believe they do not represent what the national media is portraying across the country. I support LPD and want my taxes to fund them!

Thank you,
Aletha Sand

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: David Wiegand <clear28695@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:32 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Continue to fund LPD.

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Lincoln City Council,

Continue to adequately fund our city police force.

If you REALLY want to improve law enforcement in Lincoln, how about you support electing a Mayor who knows how to responsibly use FORCE to uphold law and maintain order. ANTI-SOCIAL personalities ATTACK groups, like our police department, who maintain law and order, and SUPPORT destructive groups, like the rioters and arsonists who attacked our city recently. I will leave it up to you to LOOK and decide just what kind of personality we have in Mayor Baird.

The use of force CAN have two sides, one in support of the overall "good" and the other in support of chaos and disorder.

Let's use force for GOOD shall we?

Support our police department.

Sincerely,

Rev. David F. Wiegand

5311 Greenwood Street

Lincoln, NE 68504

402-432-5689

Angela M. Birkett

From: Cathy Mann <cathydonnmann@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:25 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support for our police force.

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

My husband, Donn, and I very much support our excellent police force. We absolutely do NOT support anything to do with defunding the police. Extra education and training is always good, and would cause even more improvement.

Sincerely,

Donn and Cathy Mann
6101 S 25th St
Lincoln, Ne 68512

Angela M. Birkett

From: sharon yockers <sharonyockers@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:11 PM
To: Council Packet

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please support our local law enforcement in Lincoln. Law and order is essential for peace and harmony. Without law and order no society can survive. Without it we have anarchy - it's a society gone amok! I pray common sense will prevail!

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Angela M. Birkett

From: Michael Walker <mwalker_1nk@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 9:53 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: do not de-fund the police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I urge you not to give any consideration to de-funding the Lincoln Police Department. Any move to de-fund the police will only serve to embolden those that are working to sow division within our communities and threaten law and order within our city. Additionally, a poll by YouGov shows that the majority of Americans oppose de-funding police:

"Despite calls by activists and protesters to defund police departments, most Americans do not support reducing law enforcement budgets. Close to two-thirds (65%) oppose cutting police force funding. Just 16 percent of Democrats and 15 percent of Republicans support that idea."

<https://today.yougov.com/topics/politics/articles-reports/2020/06/01/police-reform-america-poll>

-Michael Walker

Angela M. Birkett

From: jetrae <jetrae@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 9:48 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support of the Lincoln Police Dept

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Council Members

I support our police department as well as our sherriff's department 200%.

We would have chaos and crime without them. I strongly believe Lincoln has the best police department in the country. I have seen them at work first hand & they are respectful & treat everyone fair.

In fact, I believe the city of Lincoln has grown so much, we need to add officers to the dept instead of defunding them. LPD is the BEST!!!

Jeanette Eagleton

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Mary <mary@gpcom.net>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 9:28 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Lincoln Police Department

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I am Mary Scheinost and I live in Niobrara, Nebraska. You are probably wondering why I would be emailing the Mayor and Council Members of your great city. I have many reasons to be concerned for residents of Lincoln, Nebraska, the first one is that my son, Captain Donald Scheinost, has worked for LPD for more than 30 years and many times he has told me he wouldn't want to do anything else as he just loves his job. I certainly hope he and many other dedicated police officers like him will still say that after the country finally comes to their senses and settles down. Secondly many of our town's youth have gone to college in Lincoln and many of them have decided to stay and make Lincoln their home. They were raised in a safe community and I'm sure they felt safe when they came to Lincoln. I have many friends and relatives that are residents of Lincoln and I know they are sickened at the destruction that happened during and after the protests. I'm happy to see on the news that some of the individuals that caused the damage have been identified and prosecuted. From watching all the unrest in the larger cities in our nation, it seems to me that the police have been ordered to not do their jobs. Why? If they would have had the support of their elected officials I'm very sure the outcome would have been very different. Today, as shown on TV, police are being depicted as the bad guys and criminals are let out of jail. I'm sure just about everyone in this country thinks that what happened in Minneapolis was a terrible thing but police officers all over the country are certainly not to blame. I hope all the elected officials of the city of Lincoln will support the police as they do their jobs in carrying out the laws of their city and state. I'm very proud of the Lincoln Police Department and they deserve the respect of all of the citizens of Lincoln.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Barbara Gardner <leavingKS2@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 9:00 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Defunding the Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

As a property owner in Lincoln I cannot stress the importance of backing our fine men and women in Law Enforcement. Those wanting to defund the police are short sighted individuals. I would never own a property or live in a city that would consider insulting law enforcement in this way. These fine men and women put themselves in harms way daily to keep us safe.

Look at the societies that have implemented such foolishness. The harm inflicted on the citizens is life long. I fear for my family and friends. Those pushing this dangerous agenda truly do not have our best interest at heart. They have a longer term agenda and this is only the beginning.

Be very careful. Look past the short sightedness and look to the long term ramifications of such a truly stupid decision.

Barbara Gardner
Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

Angela M. Birkett

From: Tamara Thorne <tamthorne@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 8:39 PM
To: Council Packet

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I support funding the police and believe to keep order and peace in the community we must keep the strength of the police presence and increase funds to bring g in more staff.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Emily Weeks <emilybellaweeks@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 8:34 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support of LPD

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

To whom it may concern,

I completely support the Lincoln Police Department and do NOT support defunding any department. All police offices do not need to be punished for the actions of a very few. Yes, training and performance evaluations are what is needed, not layoffs!

After spending 26 years in large law enforcement family, they showed me their long term and unwavering support of their fellow officers.

Thank you,
Emily Kent.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Janice Swanson <janice.swanson7@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 8:10 PM
To: Council Packet

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Good evening,

I find it very hard to believe that we have come to the point where I have to write this. Please continue to support the good men and women of our police force. We need them. I want to live in a safe community. As with all things in life, there are a few bad eggs, but that does not mean they should all be punished. Keep our police, do not make their jobs any more dangerous, but do not tolerate any racism or unnecessary brutality.

Thank you!

Janice Swanson
3353 Woods Ave
London, Ne. 68510

Angela M. Birkett

From: Ryan <hamilton.rt@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 8:04 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Opposition to defunding the police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Hello,

I am a resident of the city of Lincoln residing at 7500 S 15th Street and I strongly oppose cuts to the police.

Further, the mayor should be ashamed to show her face in the city given her decision to stand police down as violent rioters were ransacking her city and assaulting her police. Further, her subsequent lack of support for the department is beyond embarrassing - truly clownish behavior.

Sincerely,
Ryan Hamilton

Angela M. Birkett

From: dylan barnes <barnesdylan88@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 8:01 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: I am a resident of Lincoln

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

My address is 7500 S 15th St, Lincoln, NE 68512

I strongly oppose any spending, funding, or staffing cuts to the police.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Brad Strauss <bds625@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 8:00 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support Lincoln police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I saw a posting on Facebook to email this address to support our police dept. I support them 100%. I think LPD does an outstanding job of keeping our community safe. I think the mayor is doing an outstanding job too. I'm against defunding the police department.

Thank you
Brad Strauss

Angela M. Birkett

From: jekuchta1 <jekuchta1@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 7:58 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Keep our police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

To whom it may concern,

Please do not do away with the Lincoln Police Dept. I would not feel safe living here anymore and would have to move away. We love and need our law enforcement officers!

Thank you,
Jane

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Tricia Hiltgen <queenlatricia@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 7:51 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police Department

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Lincoln City Council Members,

I am writing concerning the Lincoln Police Department (LPD). Over the past few weeks, I have noticed other cities calling to defund the police. LPD is needed in our community. This past year LPD assisted my family with a mail theft. I am glad they were there to take the information even though no one was identified as the perpetrator.

I know LPD is not perfect because it is made up of individuals with their own set of values and belief systems. There may need to be some training that can assist them with interacting with different types of individuals/groups, but defunding the police is not a viable option.

Who will citizens call when there is a vehicle accident? Who will citizens call when their home is being vandalized or broken in? Will there be a need for a court system any longer if no one can be arrested for crimes since there would be no police? These are some things to think about. Without LPD, anarchy will rule the streets of Lincoln.

Respectfully,

Tricia Hiltgen

Angela M. Birkett

From: Sandi <maize.sandi@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 7:48 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Do Not Defund The Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please do not consider defunding our Police Dept. I'm a lifelong Lincoln resident and I never thought I would see rioting in our beautiful city before May 30 & 31. I will no longer feel confident in the safety of Lincoln after seeing the destruction in our city. We need law and order now more than ever.

Our Police Dept. does a great job of building community relationships. Anyone who opposes the policing in Lincoln needs to do a ride along to see the challenges our police face. It was heartbreaking to see how our LEO's were treated. I pray for the safety of our LEO's and expect our city leaders to uphold measures to keep them and our city safe.

Sincerely,
Sandra Maize

Sent from my iPad

Angela M. Birkett

From: Dianne Franke <dfranke78@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 7:47 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Fund our police department

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I want to relay my sentiments on the talk lately to defund our police. Obviously, we need (have to have) our police department. Do NOT buckle to the violence or the threats. This is a nation of law and order and I expect my family, my friends and myself the safety and security from harms way. Keep the police department fully funded. Thank you.

Dianne Franke

Angela M. Birkett

From: Della Johns <dellajohns99@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 7:46 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: I support the police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Sirs:

For the record, I support, respect, and admire the Lincoln Police Department. Under no circumstances, do I want them defunded! We need law enforcement in our city!

I vote in favor of keeping the police department in tact.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Della Johns

5831 S 58th, suite A

Lincoln NE 68516

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Christine Neth <neth.christinem@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 7:46 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support for LPD

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I am writing to voice my support for the Lincoln Police Department. I am a Lincoln business and property owner. I've recently experienced the riots and destruction all around my business and property. Knowing LPD was available to call upon during those days was the only piece of mind we had. We've called on them before for assistance and they have always, always been there for us.

LPD is vital to the safety of our community and has shown nothing less than the highest standards of professionalism and support.

As our elected officials it is your responsibility to insure Lincoln residents, property owners and businesses are safe from radical ideas such as defunding LPD.

Please do not listen to the radical requests to defund our police force.

Now is the time for the city council to show solidarity and support for those who have chosen to serve our community in law-enforcement. Send a strong message. Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: kris smokinggunjerky.com <kris@smokinggunjerky.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 7:37 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Do not defund police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Our law enforcement is very important to the city of Lincoln. Without police we lose law and order in our community. These people are heroes for the work that they do. Please do not defund the police budgets. If anything, they need a raise!

Thank you!

Angela M. Birkett

From: William Varicak <willvaricak@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 7:26 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: We Support the Lincoln Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear City Council Members,

We live in the heart of Lincoln and have appreciated the safety net of the police department. Please keep them funded and provide them the tools and training to continue doing their jobs effectively.

Our police in Lincoln have always done a good job at building relationships in the community. Please do not allow a few bad apples to taint all the other good men and women. They do not deserve so much of the animosity thrown their way since the horrible incident that took place in Minnesota.

Thank You,
Will and Jackie Varicak

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: marilyne evans <mbudaevans@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 7:13 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: DEFUNDING POLICE

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I totally oppose any defunding for our law enforcement! This country needs law and order and I support our law enforcement and as a taxpayer, I am requesting you do not defund them! Ridiculous! Marilyne Evans

Angela M. Birkett

From: Glen Kleeb <gkleeb@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 6:52 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: LPD Support

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Lincoln City Council Members,

I am writing to state my unwavering support for our Lincoln Police Department and officers. I manage an apartment complex close to downtown Lincoln and frequently call on the LDP for a variety of issues. I depend on their response and assistance, and I have been able to depend on them. Their presence is essential to maintaining peace and order in Lincoln. Without law and order, the citizens of Lincoln are not safe.

I urge you to not defund our police force, but to support them fully and provide more resources for them.

Sincerely,

Glen Kleeb
Lincoln, NE
402-840-0371

Angela M. Birkett

From: Ann <annezalewski@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 6:36 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police support

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

We need the police to continue to look out for our safety and well being. I know I sleep better knowing there are police patrolling our streets both day and night. If even one crime is deferred by the sight of a policeman or patrol car why wouldn't we appreciate their efforts? There are many things the police see and do that the majority of citizens don't realize are being done to protect us all. We should be thanking them!

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: David Lewis <david@verncorroofing.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 5:25 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support our Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

City Council,

This letter is to express my support for the Lincoln Police Department , the Lancaster County Sheriff Department and the Nebraska State Patrol for our city. Please stand up for what is right and don't let the mistakes of a few people determine the undermining of our society or our safety as law abiding citizens. Please respond to those that want to destroy our community and everything it stands for that they need to go to another city and state that is swayed by every knee jerk reaction to things that happen in Life.

Thank you for standing strong for what is right.

David Lewis

Angela M. Birkett

From: Joan Kinsey <joankinsey@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 5:27 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Defunding police department

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Lincoln City Council,

As a taxpayer and resident of Lincoln, Nebraska, I have concerns about the push to defund our local police. The recent not-so-peaceful protests and rioting has resulted in millions of dollars in damages. Our police force needs to be supported and recognized as a valuable resource, and allowed to protect and serve this community. My years in child and family welfare has proven to me that our police are very involved in "social work" within our community and have gone beyond basic requirements when addressing various issues. Replacing dedicated officers would be a huge loss and disservice to our city. Reduction in police presence has proved to be detrimental to those areas that have experienced lower police interactions.

Respectfully,
Joan Kinsey

Angela M. Birkett

From: Larry Graham <lg14153@windstream.net>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 5:18 PM
To: Council Packet

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Defunding our police department. We do not need to defend our police department. Lincoln is doing very well by having the police department and the citizens of this great town to meet up with each other and share time, food and stories and show how we are all here to care for one another. No to the defunding of the Lincoln police department. Larry & Roxane Graham.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Angela M. Birkett

From: GEORGIA DAN STAHR <gahsdfs@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 5:15 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support our police!

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I am appalled that you would even think about defunding our wonderful police department.

Please support our local law enforcement and give them the respect that they deserve.

Thank you,

Georgia Stahr

Angela M. Birkett

From: Joel Hunt <joelhunt304@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 4:44 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Please Fund Our Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please enter my email into the public record. The purpose of this email is to voice my opposition to the demands coming from those in the Black Lives Matter movement to defund the police in Lincoln, Nebraska. The Lincoln Police Department is necessary to keep the peace as well as to establish law and order in the city of Lincoln. Without the police there will be lawlessness, chaos and anarchy in our streets. Therefore, I am begging you not to defund our local law enforcement agencies. Joel C. Hunt, 2212 S. 36th Street - Lincoln, NE 68506. Phone: (402) 430-2914.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Tom Dierks <tldierks@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 4:42 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police funding

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

The police in Lincoln have always done well for me. I needed their help extensively while doing foster care. Please continue to support them.

Thanks,

Tom Dierks

Angela M. Birkett

From: Mike Russell <mikes85shortbox@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 4:38 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Blue lives matter

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I wholeheartedly support our local police department and everything they are trying to do. Defund hell no ! I would gladly pay more taxes if that is what you need for support and stand by their side or assist in any situation !!!



Virus-free. www.avg.com

Angela M. Birkett

From: Rogene Villamonte <rmvillamonte@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 4:23 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support LPD

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Lincoln City Council Members,

The recent weeks has shown that as business and community members of Lincoln, we need the City Council to back our police department. Providing LPD with the necessary funds and personnel to serve and protect is the position I hope to see our city council take.

Sincerely,

Rogene Villamonte
Business Owner
1125 N 10th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

Angela M. Birkett

From: Brandon Spinazzola <brandonspin@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 4:21 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Lincoln PD

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Hi Council,

Thanks for reading.

I just wanted to send a quick email stating that I do not support defunding our police department. I do support reform, improvements, conversations, education, and opportunities to grow and be better. We need an organization to maintain law and order and also to make sure that this trusted public service is provided for everyone regardless of their race or skin color. Our community needs to be and feel safe.

I'm hopeful Lincoln will continue to support our local PD and continue to improve the establishment so we don't have any of these horrific situations in our community.

Thanks!

Brandon

--



Brandon Spinazzola
Talk/Text: 402-429-2478
Email me: brandonspin@gmail.com

Angela M. Birkett

From: David Hoesch <david.hoesch@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 4:13 PM
To: Council Packet

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

We need a strong police force. I support our police and stand against any attempt diminish their effectiveness. We also need a supportive city council and mayor. Our mayor and city council need to stand up and take the lead against lawlessness!

David Hoesch

Angela M. Birkett

From: Jason Viergutz <jasonv@v-intl.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 3:50 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Please continue to invest in Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

As a concerned citizen with all of the requests across the nation to de-fund the police, I encourage you to continue to invest in our Lincoln Police. With continued education and instruction they can better perform their jobs as protectors of our city with a view of equality in those they interact with on a daily basis. Thanks!

Jason

Angela M. Birkett

From: Lisa Lineback <lisa.linerback@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 3:45 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: I am sending this saying I support the police and I believe we need them to keep us safe and to help the city run smoothly. I trust them. I thank them very much for all their help.

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Andy Sheets <andysheets89@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 3:41 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Defunding police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Let me just start by saying it is completely wrong what happened to Mr. Floyd. That being said defunding the police department's is only going to make things worse for the general public. If we should do anything it's increase the funds, and put that towards better training and screening of the officers, deputies, and troopers. We can NOT as a civilization let the actions of a few bad officers ruin the reputation of all the good men and women of all backgrounds who choose to serve their City, County, and State in the police force.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Matthew Tapling <mtapling@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 3:26 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police Support

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Hello Council Members,

I am writing you to express my support for the Lincoln Police force. In recent weeks, the bad actions of a very small percentage of police officers around the country have been amplified to generate an effort to defund the police department here in Lincoln and across Nebraska.

The Lincoln police responded responsibly to the protestors who turned violent and destroyed our city property.

While I am in full support of reform to ensure good policing, to defund the police force or to take away resources from them that will put the city at risk in other areas is a poor decision. Also, to be reflexive in the condemnation of an entire work force that had our city's full support the day before the George Floyd event is also reactive and short sighted.

Please continue to support our police force who answer our calls for help.

Work with the leadership of the police force to solve real problems that exist in the Lincoln Police Department, not the Minneapolis or Atlanta police departments.

Please resist the emotional reaction to support the "defund police" efforts.

Thank you,
Matt Tapling
5611 Coyote Circle
Lincoln Ne 68516

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Laraeifert <laraeifert@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 2:59 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Lincoln Police Force

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Council Persons,

We have laws in our city, state and country that our Police Department help, sustain and maintain. With our police force they enforce the law, they are there for emergencies, medical responses, riots, dangerous individuals, armed individuals, abusive individuals and investigations. They are also here for community interactions and education. The idea of a social worker replacing a law enforcement officer is truly a toe curling experience of horror.

We also need to keep in place the tools they have to protect themselves. The disrespect for our Police Force is a moral debacle at this time in history and our Mayor presents herself as passive liberal in guarding our city.

Look up the Black Live Matter website, the find ACTBLUE and click on donate then expenditures. Donations go to the democrats, know who you are dealing with in this time of unrest.

The first step to abolishing the Police Force leads to socialism which can lead into communism, and both of these ideas are diabolic. We have a Mayor and council persons that are leaning left and with your liberal ideas you will put our city and citizens in a dire situation. The Mayor dropping charges against the individual that were rioting; Shut the front door!!!!!!

I my research I found, Nebraska Left Coalition agenda and their intent is to destroy our city and state police force and much more. This needs to be shared with all citizens of our city and state. I definitely will do my part to get the information out to the public.

"We, the people of Nebraska demand a new Nebraska Civil Rights Act that includes but is not limited to:

- **Demilitarization of law enforcement in Nebraska including a ban on the use of tear gas and military-style weaponry and a significant reduction of funding in order to finance reforms mentioned in this petition.**
- Ban of strangle holds and lethal force with the exception of cases in which law enforcement was contacted to deal directly with deadly threats.
- A duty for police officers to intervene in excessive use of force cases.
- Required warning before firing a weapon and a ban on no-knock entry.
- Ban of shooting at moving vehicles.
- Required reporting and video recording of instances in which a gun is pointed at another human.
- End of private investigations into police misconduct and a requirement that all officer involved shootings be immediately reported to independent investigators.
- Up-to-date, online public history of police officer complaints, removal of withholding loophole for "strategic or tactical information used in law enforcement" (84-712.05) and records of misconduct and a ban on hiring any officers to any positions in law enforcement if those individuals have a record of abuse or violence, including but not limited to, abuse of power, sexual abuse, stalking, domestic abuse, racial profiling, discrimination, or membership or support of white nationalist ideology or hate groups.
- Reform of Nebraska's overcrowded prison population including the immediate pardons of all people incarcerated for drug possession and drug use in addition to amnesty for non-violent offenders.
- Immediate restoration of voting rights for all people convicted of felonies and allowance for felons to vote while in prison.
- The legalization of marijuana and decriminalization of all drugs.
- Elimination of cash bail.
- Immediate severance of Nebraska coordination with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement for the purposes

of surveillance, deportation and tracking of suspected Undocumented peoples and community havens.

- Black history and the study of systemic American racism as a core curriculum in every public school and at the University of Nebraska.
- A 9-person civilian oversight and advocacy committee on diversity and civil rights in our state government
- An elected Public Officer in charge of overseeing diversity, civil and human rights for all police, sheriff's and state trooper's offices with the ability to terminate any officers of the law.
- Government financial investment into minority-owned and -founded businesses, community centers, and other organizations started by or primarily serving minority communities.
- Same-day voter registration and automatic voter registration for 18-year-olds in Nebraska.
- Independent committee to investigate and release a public report on the impact of COVID-19 on minorities, college students, and the poor in Nebraska.
- New mandatory training on diversity, racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, and xenophobia for all public employees in Nebraska including but not limited to police officers, doctors and educators.
- Government investment into clean and renewable energy with a focus on polluted and impoverished areas.
- The declaration of June 14 (middle date between Malcolm X and Ernie Chambers' birthdates) as an official state holiday to commemorate the struggle for racial equality in the state of Nebraska.

We will not let our leadership and our government ignore our demands for a more fair and equal Nebraska."

Take initiative and protect our Police Force.

Regards,

LaRae J. Eifert

Angela M. Birkett

From: Robin Calcara <rlcalcara@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 2:52 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Defund no way

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Our Lpd is way above the line. Dont bow to foolishness. Not the Nebraska way.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Angela M. Birkett

From: GLO <glo@extras.net>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 2:48 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Do Not Defund our Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Council Members,
I want to voice my concern that there is even talk about defunding our police. One important, may be the most important, purpose of our government, Police is to provide security, safety and enforce the laws for citizens. Yes, there has been some terrible incidences, and I would agree there are some bad police. It is an extremely small number. The huge majority treasure and value the lives of our citizenry. They put their lives out there each and every day to protect and serve each of us.

I am stating, most emphatically, my support for the Lincoln Police.
Please Do Not consider defunding the Police

Thank you for your time.

Greg Osborn
1144 Manchester Dr.
402-432-8121
glo@extras.net

Greg Osborn

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."
Philippians 4-13

Angela M. Birkett

From: Gary Gutgesell <gfgutgesell@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 2:47 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Pressure to Defund Our Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Gentlemen and ladies of the Lincoln City Council:

We realize that you already are receiving a barrage of emails from liberals demanding the defunding of our police forces. Anyone in their right mind realizes how ludicrous defunding is. Our police are the frontline defenders of our safety and liberty. We have seen that they are the only thing that stands between us and anarchy in the streets. If retraining, discipline and correction of certain police personnel is necessary to protect the rights of citizens, let that be the route to take. Defunding.....NEVER !

Gary Gutgesell
Faye Gutgesell
7154 Culwells Ct.
Lincoln, NE 68516

Angela M. Birkett

From: Raina <rl.volkmer@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 2:33 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: LPD

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

The VAST majority of Lincoln citizens respect and trust LPD. Do not defund them!!!! Support and protect them!!!!

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Aaron Hiltgen <ahiltgen@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 2:30 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Lincoln Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

To whom it may concern,

I fully support the Lincoln city and county police departments and the work that they do. Please disregard demands to defund our police forces. They do good work and they keep our streets and our city safe every day.

Thank you for your time,
Aaron P Hiltgen

Angela M. Birkett

From: drpaulf2@juno.com
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 2:25 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: from Paul Firnhaber DC

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear City Council--

I want you to know how much I support and appreciate our police department. I cannot imagine living in a city without law and order--and without a police department. I know several officers personally and really appreciate the work that they do and the protection that they provide for all of us. The efforts of some communities to de-fund the police is simply unfathomable, and, in most ways, abominable. I pray that you do not listen to a small minority of bitter and angry protesters and ignore the vast majority of citizens who respect and care about our police officers. Please, please do not consider de-funding our police!

Paul M. Firnhaber DC

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Angela M. Birkett

From: enjoyinthislife <enjoyinthislife@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 2:22 PM
To: Council Packet

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I support our wonderful law enforcement agency, life is and always will be better with them.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Angela M. Birkett

From: astahl521 <astahl521@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 2:13 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: DO NOT DEFUND THE POLICE

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

First, let me say this, I am all for equality and believe that EVERYONE deserves to be treated with dignity and respect (I do not care what color you skin is, religious affiliation, sexual orientation or anything that defines us one from another, we are all God's children) .

As a citizen I am writing to express my concern with the movement to defund the police. What's happening in Seattle should be enough of a warning sign to the rest of the country that THIS is NOT the answer.

Our men and women in law enforcement put their safety and lives on the line every time they put on that uniform. We as a community should be supporting them!

During the riots in Lincoln, I saw officers getting bricks thrown at them, fireworks, bottles of bodily fluid, gasoline, cussed at, taunted and treated horribly and with the utmost disrespect. It was disgusting and disheartening to say the least and then to add insult to injury, I was shocked at the actions of the Mayor who stood by and allowed OUR men and women in uniform to be treated this way. Shameful!

We NEED our law enforcement officers, and they need to be properly equipped and allowed to defend and protect themselves!!

PLEASE, for the love of our city, state and country, DO NOT DEFUND THE POLICE!

Sincerely,
Angie

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Sonya Erdman <sonyaerdman@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 2:10 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support of police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I do not support the defund police movement. I fully support our law enforcement and support law and order. It is important a society that we have law and order and I believe our police officers have done a fantastic job!

Sonya Sharp

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Angela M. Birkett

From: Lance Paulsen <lance.paulsen@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 2:04 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police Support

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

To All Council Members;

It is amazing to me this is a time where defunding a Police Department is even a topic of conversation. What are you replacing it with? How does eliminating a Police Force solve any issues? What really are the issues for Lincoln, Nebraska?

There has been no substantive discussion regarding any of these questions, other than national media promoting an agenda. We need to take care of our community. Let's work to make it better, not change it to match the political hype currently going on.

Lance Paulsen
lance.paulsen@gmail.com

Angela M. Birkett

From: Theresa Letsch <scenlai@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 2:04 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police department

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

We need our police to keep our cities and streets safe!!!

We would be fools to cut back or remove them.

We all need respect and protection from our police department along with our other emergency agencies.

That doesn't call for removal it calls for communication and empathy to love others no matter who we are.

It's called do unto others as you want to be done unto you. Golden rule that was taught in school.

Matthew 22:39 the second greatest commandment is love your neighbor as yourself.

Black lives do matter along with every other child that is murdered through abortion.

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Rae McReynolds <taralynn.rm@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 2:03 PM
To: Council Packet

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please fund our police. We need our police and fire dept. I am totally happy to keep them in our city.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Tyler Brown <tylerzx9r@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 1:59 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police department defunding?!

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I am in favor of our police department and do not wish to see it defunded! On the counter, I believe it needs more funding for proper training and protection for the city of lincoln!

Sincerely, Tyler Brown

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Anissa Schroeder <nissa1122@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 1:57 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Our police are important

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Lincoln City Council,

I understand that there has been a lot of unrest and calls to defund the police department recently. While I'm sure rational heads will prevail, and you will not consider this, I wanted to take the time to emphasize the importance of our police department. They are professional, hard-working, dedicated individuals.

I simply will not live in a city that would entertain such a ludicrous notion. I don't think anyone would dispute that there is always room for improvement, more training, and constant reminders that police officers should operate at a higher standard than anyone else in the community. If anything, they should probably be paid more.

I'm sure all of our police departments, state patrol and other law enforcement agencies work closely together with health and human service, and various social benefit agencies. That is how it should be, police being among the most important of those jobs.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Anissa Hoover
402-440-4581

Angela M. Birkett

From: Pat Hust <pathust1@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 1:41 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police Dept

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please, please do not cut funding to our efficient police department!!! Keep our city safe! Do not give in to the negative messages which are only loud headlines without providing the whole story. If people obey the laws and are respectful, there is no problem in Lincoln NE

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Carrie <carriemullendore@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 1:39 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support for LPD

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Lincoln City Council Members,

I am sending this message to illustrate my support of our Lincoln Police Department and ask you to thoughtfully consider the potential harm to our community that could come from defunding them.

As I'm sure you are aware, LPD works hard to find high quality employees who are fit for the job and who will contribute to our community in positive ways. Part of that includes very important evaluations, screenings, training, and continuing education. Taking away funds for those types of things could harm the quality of officers we have, which in turn could harm the relationships and interactions they have with people in our city.

As you probably also know, LPD has some amazing, existing relationships with other agencies in Lincoln who aim to help people in our community. For example, the connections with Child Advocacy Center, The Bridge, Bryan Health, etc. are regularly used to provide assistance to those who need it. Without those connections and active working relationships, I believe many people in Lincoln would go without much needed protection and/or guidance.

Sometimes people in Lincoln complain about the response time for LPD to arrive after receiving a call. This is a simple example of how removing funds that allow for more officers could harm our community. When a response time is considered "too slow," that is likely the result of low staffing or high numbers of calls and not enough people to efficiently handle them. In my opinion, we cannot afford to reduce the number of officers we have, especially as Lincoln's population continues to grow.

These are some of the main reasons I believe it is incredibly important to support our local law enforcement. I also want to remind you that the majority of them join the profession to positively impact our community and help keep it safe for all. They do a lot of great things within this city, even if some people are unaware or refuse to recognize that.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and all you do to try to help Lincoln be a great city for all its residents.

Carrie

Angela M. Birkett

From: Kyle Downey <kyle.s.downey@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 1:32 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Please Do Not Defund the Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Hello,

I've recently caught wind that you've received multiple emails stating a desire to defund the police. As a Lincoln resident, I wanted to personally state that I am in complete disagreement with this desire.

Please do not defund the police.

For numerous reasons, I desire for law and order to be maintained in Nebraska, and the police are absolutely essential for that to happen

Thank you,
Kyle Downey

Angela M. Birkett

From: Pam Shelbourn <pamsx3@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 1:07 PM
To: Council Packet; Mayor
Subject: Protect our Police
Attachments: Lincoln City Leaders letter 6.2020.docx

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Laci Reinke <lacireinke@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 1:03 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police support

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please do not defund the police. Law and order is needed, if anything, more funding is needed to better train officers in racial sensitivity.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Rob Bryant <rlb3financial@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 1:03 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Do not defund the Lincoln Police Dept.

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I am writing in support of the Lincoln Police Department and to oppose any de-funding of that department. As a lifelong Lincolnnite I very much appreciate the value of the LPD in keeping our community safe and in being an excellent representation for our city and our city's government.

Rob Bryant
5945 Cross Creek Red
Lincoln, NE 69516

Angela M. Birkett

From: Nikki Isemann <nisemann@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 1:02 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Defunding is a hashtag and not rational action

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Lincoln City Council Members:

Please do not defund the Lincoln Police Department. While that has become a recent rally cry in light of events in major metropolitan areas, consider “defund” more of a request for a serious review of training and policy. I support independent agency evaluation and review of the LPD. Defunding is a hashtag and not a rational action to take. The citizens of Lincoln require safety and security. The preamble of the US Constitution organized for the common defense and domestic tranquility. All local government officials of the Executive and Judicial branches are bound by oath or affirmation to uphold the US Constitution under Article VI, clause 3. https://usconstitution.net/xconst_A6.html Please consider thoughtfully your constitutional duty to keep your community safe, while protecting the rights of people of color. These are not mutually exclusive objectives.

Sincerely,

Nikki Isemann

--

Nikki Isemann

Angela M. Birkett

From: nikki.jorgensen <nikki.jorgensen@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 12:56 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support LPD

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Good afternoon,
I just wanted to express my gratitude and appreciation for the Lincoln Police Department. Without them our city would be chaos, crime and a disgrace. I fully support LPD and the decisions they make to keep us safe.
Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Nikki Jorgensen

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Douglas Letsch <letsch.douglas@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 12:20 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I thank God that our city especially our government is wise enough to realize the police force is the only thing that stands between our society and anarchy. My wife and I believe that black lives matter we support nine compassion international kids around the world .five of them in Africa. If black lives really matter let's stop the killing in the inner cities and put an end to abortion

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Patrick McManus <pmcmanus1968@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 12:48 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Fund the Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I have recently received word of a small group of people calling for the defunding of the Police in Lincoln. I felt that it was my duty as a resident of Lincoln to **STRONGLY** voice my opposition to this ludicrous idea. Our police force is vital to society in so many ways. They help just by their presence at times, but are there to keep us all safe. I truly am appalled by the suggestion to defund our fine police officers in Lincoln. Eventually we will hopefully have sanity return to our country. The suggestion that the police are bad and unnecessary because of a few who definitely committed crimes while defacing the badge they were supposed to represent is misguided.

Although it is your duty to look into all public concerns and in this case that does apply as well the thought of not having the police will only serve the criminals that prey on our citizens daily. I cannot fathom how crime would skyrocket in Lincoln with our Police.

Thank You for your time.

Sincerely,

Pat McManus
Seriously Concerned Citizen of Lincoln Nebraska

Angela M. Birkett

From: tylerryancarter@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 12:43 PM
To: Council Packet
Cc: 'Pastor Mike & Cleo Wooten'; tylerryancarter@gmail.com
Subject: defund police dept.

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

City Council Members,

I want to inform you that I recently heard that you have received over 100 letters to defund the LPD.

I absolutely disagree with this. Defunding the police will not produce the result of accountability required. As professionals in your industry, there are better ways to handle injustice performed by those who are called to protect and serve. Make an example of individuals who make wrong decisions. Please don't defund an entire department of people whom are good, law enforcing and law abiding professionals.

Defunding will only trickle down into lower morale for police, and potentially a higher level of attrition and turnover. This will ultimately be felt in our city and the safety of tax paying citizens.

Respectfully,

Tyler R. Carter

Youth For Christ Lincoln – Director of Ministry
6401 Pine lake Road
Lincoln, NE 68516
TylerC@YFCLincoln.org

(C) 402.215.5345
(O) 402.420.7475

9205 Panama Rd.
Holland, NE 68372
TylerRyanCarter@gmail.com

Campus Life – Donor Contribution link

<https://yfclincoln.givingfuel.com/staff-support>

Psalm 91.1 - Whoever dwells in the shelter of the most high, will rest under the shadow of the almighty

Angela M. Birkett

From: joannie.davison@yahoo.com
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 12:41 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Do not defund police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

To whom it may concern,

Defunding the police in my opinion puts EVERYONE at risk!!
Instead let's reroute the budget to add more police, and get rid of the toxic criminals.
Keep our streets safe!!!!

Sincerely,

Joannie Davison

Angela M. Birkett

From: sharon bartek <skbartek@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 12:41 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Do not defund the police!

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

It is do important to have well trained police protection in our capital city! There needs to be consequences to those who break the law as well as good role models for those who are looking for security in going good! We all need good boundaries!

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Angela M. Birkett

From: Heather Wherry <hmwherry@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 12:35 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: I SUPPORT THE LINCOLN POLICE DEPARTMENT

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear City Council,

I sent an email to each of you regarding my support for LPD, LSO and NSP. Now, I am following up with a more personal statement. I cannot remain silent anymore.

I have always supported law enforcement in my community. **Yes, my community.** I was born in Lincoln and raised on a farm just outside of the city limits. So, I did everything in my community. I received all my degrees from UNL (BS, MS and Ph.D). I now live in Lincoln. And - I am the spouse of a 23-year veteran of LPD. I am so proud of my husband. He has served this city in ways you will never know. He has seen things that would give you all nightmares. He served as an arson and homicide investigator. He just recently rotated out of the position of Domestic Violence Investigator and serves **OUR COMMUNITY** in SW Lincoln. He is respected, liked, and revered as a professional. If there is anyone who can de escalate a situation by listening and talking - it is him. The advocates at both Voices of Hope and Friendship Home hold him in highest regard. He has multiple commendations. Not one piece of "paper" (that is the term used at LPD for being written up, negatively). I know his teammates, his sergeants, his captains. We have GOOD - no GREAT officers at LDP and there are people who have no idea what they are talking about saying DEFUND the police. Really? I never thought the day would come where I would hear this in **MY COMMUNITY**. With all due respect, Mayor and Council -start listening to the majority. Just because the majority isn't marching in the street or coming to council meetings doesn't mean we don't have a voice. Get out of your offices and talk to the people. Where are OUR listening sessions?

I know there are people in our community who feel unheard. What about the spouses, family of our law enforcement? How do you think we feel? Again, where is our "listening session"? How would YOU feel if it was YOUR spouse/partner/parent/family member who was being pelted with fireworks, bottles of gasoline, bricks and rocks? For doing what? Oh - nothing. For protecting the Hall of Justice? For protecting the right to protest? I know of an officer who was helping a protestor who was hit by the truck at the EZ Go - the officer was hit in the head by a brick. For helping a protestor. Also - where is the leadership from our City Government? Why can the Mayor sit with the protestors but take two weeks to address our police? I respect her rights for sitting with the protestors, but she should have immediately shown support for our officers. They have done nothing wrong. I cannot express my extreme disappointment in the Mayor. It saddens me to think she places her political agenda before the support of our law enforcement. It saddens me to think she does not (or will not) listen to the majority. That is not the Lincoln I know. That is not the community I know.

What I do know - **OUR COMMUNITY** supports our officers. If you don't believe me, just go down to the main station or any of the substations. Businesses and citizens have been flooding the department with cards, food, well wishes. A well known doctor bought the WHOLE department lunch. Children send cards saying, "you're my hero". What they don't do is raise their voice and I

find that unfortunate. I have been hesitant because I am a spouse of an officer, but I am done being silent. Lincoln is a great community. We have so much to be proud of - but all of this negativity is overshadowing what good people we have in our community. Notice I use the word COMMUNITY throughout this message. I use it, because the Lincoln I know is a community of good people who want good for their families, friends and neighbors. And law enforcement. I wish those who were screaming *defund the police* knew what our officers did for training. The rigorous review of accreditation (yes, that includes review of use of force).

I have called on many people to reach out and flood this email with support for LPD. I sincerely hope you all listen.

Sincerely,
Heather Wherry, Ph.D.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Laurie Lewis <elitemarketing77@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 12:26 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: FUND OUR POLICE

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I am writing to express my deep concerns regarding Lincoln Law Enforcement. Please do not defund our police. The ramifications of defunding them and putting our safety at risk is unimaginable.

Respectfully,
Laurie Lewis

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: KIRBY YOUNG <servanttaxi@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 12:22 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Nuts to defund the police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

If the police are defunded, I will be leading protests to get every city council members salary revoked as well as to have you all removed. This policy is ludicrous and does not "protect" the taxpayers.

Kirby Young

Angela M. Birkett

From: John Wooten <john@artillerymedia.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 12:16 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Please do not defund the police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Hi! I hope you are well... 😊

Please do not defund the police. If anything, please increase funds for training and more officers.

Thank you! Have a great weekend! ☐

- John



John Wooten | Owner & Creative
ARTILLERY | artillerymedia.com
Email: john@artillerymedia.com

Angela M. Birkett

From: Jessica Young <youngmomof8@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 12:15 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police support

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

As a Lincoln resident I fully support the LPD and strongly oppose any efforts to defund them.

Sincerely,

Jessica Young

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: DaniAaron Young <dna6.2012@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 12:14 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police Funding

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

As a resident in Lincoln, I do not want our police force defunded. As a mother of 3, who's husband works many late evenings, my family's safety is at risk. The police force is a valuable asset to our community.

Thank you
Danielle Young

Angela M. Birkett

From: Austin Alm <ajka1107@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 12:10 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Do not defund the police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

It is very important to not defund the police. We as citizens of America need a continuance of Law and Order we do not need lawlessness in our amazing city of Lincoln. Please consider greatly before even thinking about defunding our police it will be such a horrible decision for the sake of our city let alone our free and beautiful country of America. God bless you all and thank you for everything you guys do!

Angela M. Birkett

From: Sidney Hubbard <sidneyhubbard@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 12:03 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: do NOT defund our police force!

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I can't believe you would even CONSIDER defunding our police force. The Lincoln Police are needed to keep law-abiding citizens safe!

Do not defund the Lincoln Police.

Sidney Hubbard

Angela M. Birkett

From: Karen Carter <karen_purity22@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:56 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Don't defund police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear City Council,

I am in support of our police. Do not defund the police. It is important that they help to maintain law and order for our communities. I appreciate their service.

Thank you for hearing me,

Karen Carter

Angela M. Birkett

From: David Blythe <drb.bluedevil@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:55 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support for Lincoln Police Department

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Council Members,

I am emailing you today in support of our Lincoln Police Department and to share with you my concerns over the efforts of those promoting the defunding of the Police Department.

As an owner of businesses in Lincoln we enjoy the protections provided by our law enforcement and treasure living in a safe city.

We understand that enforcing the law has consequences for those breaking the law and not everyone looks upon our law enforcement favorably, or trusts our police officers. Our families interactions with the police in Lincoln and Sheriff's in Lancaster County have all been very professional and timely.

I will also tell you the police officers that I have spoken with over the last couple weeks do not feel they have the full support of the Mayor or the City Council. That is unacceptable!

For those wishing for less police, I do not see their vision on how this improves safety or security for the people of Lincoln. Maybe they along with any of you Council members considering these actions should spend a weekend in Juarez Mexico to experience life without proper police protection, and ask those residents how safe they feel.

It is my recommendation the Council considers spending more, not less on police training and community outreach.

The better trained our officers are, the better they will respond in times of crisis requiring quick actions. The more time officers spend in the community interacting and talking with the citizens, the more opportunities to build trust and support.

I thank you in advance for your time and consideration of this email.

Best regards,

--

David R. Blythe
Managing Director
Monte Cristo Engineering & Development Company
303-330-8547
drb.bluedevil@gmail.com
Skype: david.r.blythe

Angela M. Birkett

From: Elevate Church <elevatelincoln@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:52 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: We need the Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Council Members,

As a father, grandfather and pastor of a local church that serves the city of Lincoln, I strongly SUPPORT our local law enforcement to continue to maintain law and order in Lincoln, NE. I have lived here since the mid 70's and appreciate our Police and Sheriff's Department.

I am vehemently OPPOSED to defunding the Police. Law enforcement is a vital part of any society that desires order and safety.

Thank you,

Pastor Mike Wooten
Elevate Church
Lincoln, NE

Angela M. Birkett

From: Dick Veik <dickveik@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:50 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: I support the Lincoln Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Without them who do law abiding citizens turn for protection?

I an Richard Veik, citizen of Lincoln

--

Oremus pro invicem

Angela M. Birkett

From: Margaret Wall <wowgirl1@me.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:46 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Defunding the Police Department

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Councilmembers,

Please DO NOT defund our police department. The police here in Lincoln are very good and sensitive to all our citizens' needs. They provide us with law and order. The police need support, not criticism. Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Debbie Brester <debbiebrester@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:44 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Proposed defunding Lincoln Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Council Members,

I am very concerned about the proposed defunding of the Lincoln Police Department. This would be a very irresponsible move on the part of the City. In light of the issues across this country, it's understandable that some changes may need to be made, it is NOT reasonable to defund the department. As a whole, I feel that our police are doing a very good job keeping our citizens safe. We need to continue to give them the support, respect, and resources necessary to continue to do their jobs well.

Thank you!

Debbie Brester

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: roger.kinsey <rky974@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:44 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support of our police Dept.

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

As a tax paying long term citizen, I implore you as Lincoln City Council to stand behind our City Police Dept. and keep full funding in place. In our current state of affairs we need our Police Dept. more than ever and they need to be allowed to do their job as trained and not be told to stand down in order to be politically correct. Non-action has left downtown Lincoln with millions of dollars worth of damage which did not need to happen. If further training is needed, train them and then let them do their jobs and increase funding if needed.

Concerned citizen
Roger E. Kinsey

Angela M. Birkett

From: VAW12364@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:38 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: LPD

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I fully support our LPD and all other Nebraska Law Enforcement . They are the strong and brave of our state. We can not be a true Human society without them . Do NOT defund this essential group of workers.

Valerie Walter

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Nancy Rudeen <nrudeen13@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:38 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I grew up in Lincoln, cannot imagine what it could turn into if police are defunded. Is lawlessness really what residents want????? I think not!!!! For everyone's sake support your police force!
Nancy Rudeen

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: TODD BOHLENDER <tab61ne@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:36 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: NOT Defunding Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Council members,

I am contacting you to express my Very Strong Support for the Lincoln Police Department! I DO NOT support the reckless idea to defund LPD!! You as a City Council just setup protections for a segment of Lincoln's population, how can you not provide Police protection and service to a Large population that live in and visit Lincoln everyday. If this were to happen, there would be diminished attendance for many popular events in Lincoln like: UNL sports, concerts, High School Tournaments, and marathons to name a few. Please continue to let Lincoln live "The Good Life"!

Thank you for your attention,
Todd Bohlender

Angela M. Birkett

From: Debbie Brester <debbiebrester@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:30 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police Department

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I have become aware that some individuals have asked that our Lincoln Police Department be “defunded” This is an action that makes NO sense and it would be extremely irresponsible for our city to do that. Don’t let the few people asking for this ridiculous change our actions. We need to completely support our police in every way possible.

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Sioux Baumgartner <siouxbaum@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:26 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police support

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

To whom it may concern - -

We were given this email to show support for the law enforcement. We absolutely respect and appreciate all of the responsible work the officers do for our safety. We hope that no real consideration will be given to defund the department.

Sincerely,

Sioux Baumgartner

Angela M. Birkett

From: Nancy Russell <nancymarierussell@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:19 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: law enforcement

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear City Council: Police are absolutely required for a stable, safe community. Forces of evil are in process of tearing down all of our securities and infrastructures. If individual corrections need to be made, so be it. Best Wishes, Nancy

Angela M. Birkett

From: Tiffany Walker <tiffanybohlender1@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:08 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Do Not Defund LPD

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I have seen the recent calls nationally for defunding police departments. Lincoln needs to resist the insanity that seems to be plaguing America's large cities. LPD has always worked hard to have a positive relationship and presence within the community. My family has seen that firsthand with the officers that work in the Belmont neighborhood. They have meetings to listen to the residents' concerns and ideas, and they act on them. I feel better knowing they are paying attention to what's happening in my neighborhood. If anything, I think they need more funding for training, rest and resources for mental health, not less. A well trained and well rested cop has the ability to quickly and safely subdue a suspect or dangerous person. They can think quickly and clearly to deescalate a situation before it becomes dangerous. Do not put our community in more danger by reducing the funding of our police.

Sincerely,
Tiffany Walker

Angela M. Birkett

From: Dick Veik <dickveik@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:05 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: I support the Lincoln Police Department

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

As a citizen of the city of Lincoln, I want to extend my appreciation and support of the Lincoln Police Department and the Lancaster County Sheriff Department. One thing we need is some sort of order. If there is no one to enforce the laws, what do we have? Anarchy! As far as I am concerned, give all of them a pay raise!

Richard Veik

Angela M. Birkett

From: Lonnie Veik <april47.lv@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:04 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support for our Lincoln Police Department

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

In a few words, here is why I support our Lincoln Police Department.

They protect our well being and safety and curtail illegal activity which evolves from the evil that is prevalent.

LaVonne Veik

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Markeen Strauss <markie.strauss@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 11:01 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: I do not support defunding our law enforcement.....anywhere in the United States

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

What will happen to our country if we had little or no law enforcement. Defunding the police force will be devastating to the poor, people of color.. more blacks are killed by other blacks than from law enforcement. This is no longer about George Floyd or BLM, but about radical groups with an agenda. Please don't give into these outside groups. Who are you going to call if we cannot rely on our law enforcement....if we are being robbed or sexually assaulted, or even worse endangered of being murdered or witness to a murder... Who are we going to call...ANTIFA, our Mayor, a social worker, ghostbusters? Please don't surrender to this type of thinking that some major cities have already done. Be strong and stand up to these left wing radical groups and add more funding to law enforcement for proper training and required certification before they go out into the field. I fully support our men and women in blue.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Matthew Anderson <matta@cefnebraska.org>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:57 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: I Support the Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

City of Lincoln Leadership,

I wish to make public and for the record that I wholeheartedly SUPPORT our law enforcement departments. To defund would simply send the wrong message not only to the community but to those who are not law abiding citizens. There are laws in place that serve two purposes. One is to help preserve the life we all enjoy, and two, to keep those who enforce the laws in check.

As in any profession you will find those who are below the high standards that law enforcement agencies across this country have set, yet the actions of these very few should not paint an entire profession as corrupt or unprofessional. Our policemen and women are placed in harms way every day and have to make split second decisions, of which some can have unintended consequences.

It is my strong opinion that increased training and funding instead is required in order for those who are in law enforcement to maintain the high standards that not only do we expect, but they have set for themselves. Anything short of that is doing a disservice not only to law enforcement but to our community as well.

Blessings,

Matthew N. Anderson
Director of Stewardship
CEF of Nebraska
6400 Cornhusker Highway
Suite 400
Lincoln, NE. 68507

402-480-5515 - Cell

matta@cefnebraska.org

Website <http://cefnebraska.org/>

Luke 10:2 The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.

Be a part of Child Evangelism Fellowship and join our Harvest Club
<http://cefnebraska.org/harvestclub/>

Everyone loves a project. CHECK OUT the 1014project.com

Mark 10:14

Mark 10:14 which quotes Jesus, "...Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them; for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (NIV)

Mark 9:36-37

"Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me."

Angela M. Birkett

From: robert klotz <krobktz@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:53 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Defunding Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

To defund the police and allow ethnic, religious, social or political groups to police their own area is to revert back to tribalism. Defunding the police is sanctioning anarchy, at which point, who needs a city council, mayor, governor, or U.S.A.?

Angela M. Birkett

From: Elizabeth (Libby) Hoffmeyer <ehoffmeyer@lincolnsurgery.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:49 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police Support

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Good morning,

I am writing to the Lincoln City Council in support of our police department. In these very unsettling times it is of utmost importance to support our police to keep our city safe.

I have worked in healthcare for over 35 years and would like to share some of my observations:

1. I have witnessed some unsafe practice by physicians but that does **NOT** make every physician unsafe.
2. I have worked side by side with some nurses who are not making the best decisions for patients safety, but that does **NOT** make every nurse makes poor decisions.
3. I have witnessed some pharmacists who have abused medications, but that does **NOT** make every pharmacist a drug abuser.
4. I have witnessed elder neglect by staff at nursing homes, but that does **NOT** make everyone caring for our elders neglectful.

I could go on and on with examples but hopefully you get the point I make. ONE bad apple should not be what we base a decision on. Our police force does thousands of wonderful things to protect and serve our community and keep us safe.

ONE bad thing is all that makes the media. Where is the media to report every good deed done.

The City Council was voted to make decisions that affect the community as a whole. There is evidence to support that defunding our police would be detrimental to our community.

When someone is breaking into your home or your business who will you call?

When an accident happens who will see to the safety of those around including diversion of traffic, enabling the EMT's to access the injured victims, and overseeing the reports for insurance and legal records?

When someone is suffering from domestic abuse; rape, beaten, etc. who will you call to come to your assistance?

When someone witnesses the abuse of a child or a child is admitted to the hospital with suspected child abuse, who will come to the aid of the child to file a report?

PLEASE ACT ON BEHALF OF THE SAFETY OF LINCOLN.

PLEASE DO NOT MAKE DECISIONS BASED ON "ONE BAD APPLE" IN THE FORCE.

Respectfully,

Libby Hoffmeyer, BSN, RN

Angela M. Birkett

From: Rick Meyer <rickmeyer4671@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:47 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

As tax payer living in Lincoln I give my full support to the men and woman in blue in our city. How dumb is it to change our entire police because one idiot cop in Minneapolis did what he did. Who is behind the pushing of defund the police what motives would a person want to disorganize our protection except criminal activity. Use your common sense ignore the criminals and help our police department not hurt them. Tax Payer Rick Meyer

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Megan Riggert <megz7295@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:37 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support for Lincoln Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I am writing you today to express my support for Lincoln Police. Rumors of possible defunding of the police department leaves me scared for the safety and security of my family! I am counting on you to continue funding our local law enforcement agencies and keep this city safe for our children and all the residents of Lincoln! Please don't let me down!

Megan Riggert

Angela M. Birkett

From: fanchon blythe <fanchonblythe@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:34 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: I support our LPD

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

To all Lincoln City Council members,

I want to express my complete support of Lincoln Police, State Patrol, Sheriff's department and National Guard! I was present Saturday night until 2am Sunday, watching the rioters throw fireworks, shoot paint balls, throw water bottles with bodily fluids and gasoline at them. That was in NO WAY a peaceful protest!! Those rioters deserved everything they got, they were warned multiple times to leave or experience tear gas and rubber bullets. I want to also add, I've never seen SO MUCH marijuana smoking going on!! I went back Sunday am to help with the cleanup and was saddened to see the millions of dollars in damage 😞

I cannot image defunding our Police department's around our country! I believe we have great officers here, I personally know four.

Thank you for your time,

Regards,

Fanchon Blythe

--

Fanchon Blythe

Lincoln GOP Engagement Task Force

402-304-6092

[Fanchonblythe@gmail.com](mailto:fanchonblythe@gmail.com)

Angela M. Birkett

From: Dalene Walker <dalenewalker@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:33 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Please DO NOT defund our police department

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

To our esteemed City Council Members:

The political climate in the United States is currently such that in many places, funds are being taken away from police departments in many cities across the nation. As such, I am sure that you are probably getting requests from people even here in Lincoln to defund the police. I am writing to strongly urge you NOT to follow this trend.

Unfortunately, as a foster and adoptive parent, I have had many encounters with the Lincoln Police Department. In every interaction, the police have been respectful, courteous, and supportive of all individuals in our household. I have NEVER felt any disrespect or seen any inappropriate conduct from any officer of the LPD. True, I am caucasian as are the children that have been in our care. But I don't believe that the color of our skin has made any difference to those police officers. Some of the situations involved other children of color. The situations with the children has been such that the officers had to have felt disrespected and frustrated at times. But that has never shown in their behaviors; in every encounter they have been respectful and courteous to ALL individuals, regardless of skin color.

I do believe there is more that can be done to improve the relationships between the races. But I also believe that strategies to do so do NOT include taking away money from the police department. That will leave fewer police on the streets of Lincoln, resulting in longer response times for calls which could lead to decreased safety of the public and increased crime.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email.

Sincerely,
Dalene Walker



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Angela M. Birkett

From: Steven W Holman <steve@neb.rr.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:33 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: POLICE FUNDING

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

As a citizen of Lincoln pretty much all my life, I was appalled at the riots that took place under the cover of a demonstration recently. Developing a good relationship between our police and the members of our community is important, but it can't be done by simply allowing illegal behavior on the part of any one person or group in our society. I would like to believe that we don't have any officers in our police department who are out-right racists or would use excessive or deadly force when it is not justified. (Excessive force can never be justified, by definition, it is more force than necessary, as opposed to lethal force which can certainly be justified under certain conditions.

I don't believe a curfew was either needed nor effective, especially considering violators were not all arrested and even those who were my receive pardons. To issue a curfew was the first mistake, to pardon violators simply compounds that mistake. The more laws you choose to ignore rather than prosecute, the more that will be broken, and where do you draw the line? Or do you simply give in to mob mentality?

There are some things that can be done to improve on the relationship between our police and our community. Most of these things are already being done, like officers treating all people with respect and even friendliness when it is appropriate (you don't try to make friends with guy that just came out of a liquor store with a gun and a bag of money).

It's okay to give a person a break once in a while at the officer's discretion. Write a warning ticket instead of an actual citation for small violations in which there was no real damage done.

And though it is costly, body cameras and appropriate policies regarding their use would go a long way toward reducing cases and accusations of excessive force.

In these chaotic times, we need more police presence, not less. You can worry about what a mob can do, or you can nip it in the bud. Don't allow demonstrators to block streets, for one thing. Don't wait for crowds of hundreds or thousands; move them along as they show up. You can be friendly and say, Good afternoon (sir or mam), you can certainly carry that sign or flag around town as a demonstration of your thoughts, but you can't stay in the street. Please move on up to the sidewalk. If that doesn't work, then ticket them, and if they still don't go away, arrest them. If a crowd grows faster than police can handle them one-on-one, and becomes unruly, then tear gas, pepper spray, rubber bullets, shot gun bean bags, tasers, or whatever other non-lethal tactics are certainly preferable to unfettered access to private or public buildings by those who intend to vandalize, destroy property, commit arson, or commit burglary or robbery.

Unless you want armed citizens protecting their own property, you better be prepared to protect them and their property from rioters. Private citizens are not going to care what color a person is who is breaking in their windows and going inside to steal things or set fires, and they won't be using non-lethal force.

Defunding the police force is absolutely not good for anyone except perhaps the opportunistic scumbags and thieves among the crowds. If you're going to cater to them like Seattle's mayor has to a takeover of part of their city, then just tell us now so we can start preparing for the anarchy that will surely follow.

Steve Holman

Angela M. Birkett

From: Fred J. Matulka <fmatulka@cultureindex.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:24 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support for police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I support our police. Add more funds don't take funds away. Surely we are smart enough to do the right thing.

Fred J. Matulka
Culture Index
fmatulka@cindexinc.com
402-540-8225

Angela M. Birkett

From: David Stempson <davidstempson1@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:19 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

We are against any defunding of The Lincoln Police Department. The rule of law, wrongly, is now under attack as never before and without the rule of law there can be no city, state or country....it is that simple. LEAVE THE POLICE ALONE!
Dave & Tani Stempson

Sent from my iPad

Angela M. Birkett

From: Dick Veik <dickveik@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:18 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: I support the Lincoln Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

The Lincoln Police and the Lancaster County Sheriff are vital to our city and county. Several years ago, we needed some help with a family matter. One of the Lancaster County Sheriff deputies came out and visited with us and gave us some ideas. We implemented his ideas and our lives are much more peaceful. We are grateful for his help indeed!
I am Richard Veik and am a resident of the city of Lincoln Nebraska.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Gary Muckel <gmuckel9@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:16 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police defunding

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please express my thanks to the job our law enforcement did during the recent riot prone protests and looting and arson. They showed great restraint and professionalism. Defunding them is absolutely the wrong direction and message to them. I appreciate the followup job they are doing with recent arrests.

Gary Muckel
6531 Carlsbad Drive
Lincoln

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Tim Diehlman <diehlmant@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:09 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police Force

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Being a resident of Lincoln I would like to say we need a strong police department to uphold the safety of everyone living in the city. We increase spending for police not decrease !

Angela M. Birkett

From: Marilyn Strahm <kstrahm2000@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:08 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

As a citizen of the United states and a resident of Lincoln I respectfully request that you throw out this idea of defunding our hard working police force. Lincoln is a great city, but we would be totally given over to crime, drugs and other corruption. We need the Blue for protection. When anything bad happens, they are the first ones to run to us and help us out. Please use your Nebraska values to totally dismiss this crazy notion of defunding the people who enforce law and order. PLEASE.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Angela M. Birkett

From: lkpetersconstruction@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:01 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Local police!

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear City Council,

Please know that we are 100% supportive of our local police and sheriffs office. Please know we want our local men in blue to be supported well funded and appreciated. Tom Cassidy recently recommended more training be funded for our local officers. Please take every opportunity to affirm Publicly our men who are in service to God and country.

Thanks for serving our city!

Larry and Betty Peters

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Kacy Meyer <kacym6@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:02 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police Funding

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Good morning,

I just wanted to send an email in support of our city's police force. I am sure you are getting bombarded by hateful emails that attack our heroes in blue, but I would like to remind you all that LPD is so important to the protection of our community. Please do not consider defunding them.

Thank you,
Kacy Meyer

Angela M. Birkett

From: Paul Watson <pwatson68516@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:01 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: No To Defunding Police Department

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I totally support the Lincoln Police department and encourage you to ignore the defunding effort that is becoming a popular tactic by Black Lives Matter groups. I feel this is a mis-guided effort that is being made popular by national media coverage and being pushed by outside groups that have no knowledge of our local police policies. Remember you represent nearly 300,000 in the city of Lincoln. Do these few activists calling for defunding really represent the desires of our entire community????

Definitely not mine.

--

Paul Watson
pwatson68516@gmail.com
402-430-8778

Angela M. Birkett

From: robertivbryant@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 9:56 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police Funding

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Hello,

I am aware that you have been receiving a steady stream of emails calling for some level of defunding the police. I am writing in strong opposition of any measure to that effect. Although police are not perfect defunding is not the answer. Increased training may be a first effective step. Movements stigmatizing police activity in minority neighborhoods, although without racial animus, cause the most harm to minority populations by decreasing police activity leading to increased crime in those neighborhoods among civilians far outpacing any amount of police brutality. This is borne out incredibly clearly in crime statistics following major anti-policing movements.

Thank you,
Robert Bryant

Angela M. Birkett

From: Connie Wostrel <cmwostrel@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 9:49 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: SUPPORT OUR POLICE

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Council of City Of Lincoln,

Our police are absolutely necessary for a safe, prosperous Lincoln. They need to be given full support and not degraded. They are doing a superb job of protecting Lincoln! We must be thankful for their work and reward them for their hard work.

May God bless Lincoln and the USA!

Connie Wostrel

Angela M. Birkett

From: 1lnash@windstream.net
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 9:55 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: WE NEED TO FUND MORE MONEY TO OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Lincoln City Council Members:

We need to FUND MORE MONEY TO OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT! It is very important for our Police Department to maintain law and order in Lincoln! Our Police did a great job in protecting our community when the Black Lives Matter Riots happened earlier this month! More money not less for our Lincoln City Police Department!!!

Sincerely,

Ron and Lynette Nash
1110 Cottonwood Drive
Lincoln, NE 68510

Angela M. Birkett

From: Jan Kruse <jankruse1952@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 9:46 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Law Enforcement

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I fully support members of the Lincoln Police Department. It would be counterproductive to defund this entity. I moved to Lincoln because I thought it was a safe place to live out my retirement years. I want to know that our police are fully supported by the City of Lincoln!

Thank you for your consideration.

Jan Kruse
402.720.0816

Angela M. Birkett

From: Steve Hawkins <shawk2789@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 8:13 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police funding

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I truly hope you have no plans to defund the police. This whole Black Lives Matters movement is very divisive. Can any of you name the person or black person who was unarmed that was shot dead by Lincoln Police? As a lifelong Lincoln resident I can't think of one. This whole hearted support of the Black Lives Movement and the "Hands up don't shoot" is based on a lie. I encourage all of you to read the Michael Brown DOJ report put together by Eric Holder of the Obama Administration. This race baiting political posturing does nothing to assist the black communities. The protests should be in Chicago and St Louis or even North Omaha neighborhoods where black on black crime is rampant. The Police Officers in these communities are the only thing protecting the law abiding citizens for total destruction. This has nothing to do with race; it's a socioeconomic issue which is driven by unwed mothers and the lack of job opportunities. Our Mayor has handled this whole crisis like the big city liberal that she is. The fact that she imposed the curfew then told the protesters that they could ignore the curfew showed me her lack of character. I pray you all realize that we live in the heart of America and should live by the words below. Show some character.

I look to a day when people will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.

[Martin Luther King, Jr.](#)

--

Steve Hawkins
7933 Hacienda Dr
Lincoln Ne 68516
Ph # 402-699-4265
email: shawk2789@gmail.com

Angela M. Birkett

From: David Butler <dcbutler4420@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 4:39 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Please Do Not Defund our Lincoln Police Department.

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

To the City council members,

Please, do not listen to these people wanting to Defund our Police Department. The Lincoln Police Department (LPD) plays an important role in helping all Americans citizens. All they (the radicals) want is lawlessness, racial separation and disorder due to the absence of our governmental and (LPD) authority in our city.

I love Lincoln. Please do not allow our city to turn into a 3rd world country.

Thank you for reading my email
David Butler

Angela M. Birkett

From: 1lnash@windstream.net
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 2:42 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: SUPPORT POLICE AND SHERIFF DEPARTMENTS

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Lincoln City Council Members:

We SUPPORT OUR POLICE AND SHERIFF DEPARTMENTS!!! BOTH DEPARTMENTS REALLY DID A GREAT JOB IN PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITY DURING THE BLACK LIVES MATTER RIOTS!!!!

Sincerely,

Ron and Lynette Nash
1110 Cottonwood Drive
Lincoln, NE 68510