IN LIEU OF
DIRECTORS’ ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
Monday, June 29, 2020

I. DIRECTORS CORRESPONDENCE
   PLANNING DEPARTMENT
   1. Administrative Approvals from June 16, 2020 through June 22, 2020
   2. Action dated June 24, 2020
   3. Final Action dated June 24, 2020

II. CONSTITUENT CORRESPONDENCE
   1. Please act now - Emily Chao
   2. Congressional District Campaign to implement US Universal Health Care - Jon Li
   3. Taxes too high - Ron & Lynette Nash
   4. Recycling Sites - Bob & Mary Lou Reeves
   5. Fairness Ordinance - Peggy (Pearl) Van Zandt
   6. Recent Riots - Lori Marsh

III. CONSTITUENT CORRESPONDENCE REQUESTING TO DEFUND LPD
     See attached items

IV. CONSTITUENT CORRESPONDENCE IN SUPPORT OF LPD
    See attached items
Memorandum

Date:  June 23, 2020

To:  City Clerk

From:  Rhonda Haas, Planning Dept.

Re:  Administrative Approvals

cc:  Geri Rorabaugh, Planning Dept.

This is a list of City administrative approvals by the Planning Director from June 16, 2020 through June 22, 2020:

**Administrative Amendment 20027 to Use Permit 145B**, Pine Lake Plaza Office Park, approved by the Planning Director on June 19, 2020, to revise the lot layout for Area 3, Block 3 by adding Lot 3, and reallocating the allowed floor area in Block 3 to assign 30,000 square feet of floor area to Lot 3, generally located at Pine Lake Road and Highway 2.

**Administrative Amendment 20031 to Special Permit 1386C**, Windhoek Community Unit Plan, approved by the Planning Director on June 22, 2020, to allow accessory uses in the rear yard as per the AGR District on property generally located at South 112th Street and Van Dorn Street.
**ACTION BY PLANNING COMMISSION**

NOTICE: The Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, June 24, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. in Hearing Room 112 on the first floor of the County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St., Lincoln, Nebraska. For more information, call the Planning Department, (402) 441-7491.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Planning Commission action is final action on any item with a notation of “FINAL ACTION”. Any aggrieved person may appeal Final Action of the Planning Commission to the City Council or County Board by filing a Notice of Appeal with the City Clerk or County Clerk within 14 days following the action of the Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission action on all other items is a recommendation to the City Council or County Board.

In order to limit the number of people gathering at any one time and our effort to adhere to required “social distancing” protocols, we are staggering the times of various hearings over several hours. These times are identified in () next to each agenda item. We are encouraging attendees to arrive no more than 15 minutes before their scheduled hearing. An agenda item will not begin before the time posted.

For the protection of all those involved, the Planning Commission will be allowing testimony on agenda items by videoconferencing. For those who wish to testify by video, you must register with the Planning Department Office to participate by calling 402-441-7491 or emailing Plan@lincoln.ne.gov by 10:00 a.m. the day of the meeting. You will be asked to provide your name, address, phone number and the agenda item(s) you wish to speak on, and your position on this item. On the day of the hearing, you will receive a link via email, which will be needed to join the hearing to provide your testimony.

AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2020

[Commissioner Finnegan absent]

Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held June 10, 2020, as revised. **APPROVED: 7-0; (Ryman Yost abstained; Finnegan absent)**

Resolution of Appreciation presented to: **Shams Al-Badry, ADOPTED: 7-0; Resolution PC-01711.**

1. CONSENT AGENDA: None.
   (Public Hearing and Administrative Action);
2. REQUESTS FOR DEFERRAL: (See Items 4.1a, 4.1b, and 4.1c)

3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: None.

4. PUBLIC HEARING AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION:

(*** 1:00 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS: ***)

ANNEXATION AND RELATED ITEMS:

4.1a ANNEXATION 20006, to annex an area southeast of SW 56th Street and West O Street, on property generally located at SW 56th and O Streets.
Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
Staff Planner: Tom Cajka, 402-441-5662, tcajka@lincoln.ne.gov
The Planning Commission granted the request of the applicant for a 2-week deferral with public hearing and action of July 8, 2020.

4.1b CHANGE OF ZONE 20011, from AG (Agricultural District) to H-3 (Highway Commercial District) and from AG (Agricultural District) to I-1 (Industrial District), on property generally located at SW 56th and O Streets.
Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
Staff Planner: Tom Cajka, 402-441-5662, tcajka@lincoln.ne.gov
The Planning Commission granted the request of the applicant for a 2-week deferral with public hearing and action of July 8, 2020.

4.1c PRELIMINARY PLAT 20002, for 55 commercial lots on property located south of West O Street and SW 56th Street, on property generally located at SW 56th and O Streets.  ***FINAL ACTION***
Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
Staff Planner: Tom Cajka, 402-441-5662, tcajka@lincoln.ne.gov
The Planning Commission granted the request of the applicant for a 2-week deferral with public hearing and action of July 8, 2020.

TEXT AMENDMENT:

4.2 TEXT AMENDMENT 19007, to amend Articles 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 13 and 17 of the Lancaster County Zoning Regulations related to allowing Large and Small Solar Facilities, and stating that accessory solar and wind energy conversion systems are permitted in all zoning districts.
Staff recommendation: Approval
Staff Planner: Rachel Jones, 402-441-7603, rjones@lincoln.ne.gov
Planning Commission recommendation: APPROVAL, as revised set forth in the staff memo dated June 22, 2020:  8-0 (Finnegan absent). Public hearing before the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners is currently pending.
SPECIAL PERMIT AND RELATED USE PERMIT:

4.3a SPECIAL PERMIT 1629J, to allow for the adjustment of parking, on property generally located at South 27th Street and Pine Lake Road.

Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
Staff Planner: Steve Henrichsen, 402-441-6374, shenrichsen@lincoln.ne.gov
Planning Commission recommendation: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL: 8-0 (Finnegan absent) as set forth in the conditions of the staff report dated June 4, 2020. Public hearing before the City Council is tentatively scheduled for Monday, July 20, 2020, 3:00 p.m.

4.3b USE PERMIT 100E, to replace office use with multi-family use and include 110 dwelling units, with associated waivers, on property generally located at South 27th Street and Pine Lake Road.

Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
Staff Planner: Steve Henrichsen, 402-441-6374, shenrichsen@lincoln.ne.gov
Planning Commission recommendation: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL: 8-0 (Finnegan absent) as set forth in the conditions of the staff report dated June 4, 2020. Public hearing before the City Council is tentatively scheduled for Monday, July 20, 2020, 3:00 p.m.

CHANGE OF ZONE:

4.4 CHANGE OF ZONE 20019, from AG (Agricultural District) to AGR (Agricultural Residential District), on property generally located at South 110th Street and Saltillo Road.

Staff recommendation: Denial
Staff Planner: Tom Cajka, 402-441-5662, tcajka@lincoln.ne.gov
Planning Commission recommendation: APPROVAL: 7-1 (Al-Badry dissenting; Finnegan absent). Public hearing before the City Council is tentatively scheduled for Monday, July 20, 2020, 3:00 p.m.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION ONLY:

SPECIAL PERMIT:

5.1 SPECIAL PERMIT 20005, to allow for an alternative to imprisonment facility with up to 6 persons in an existing residence, on property generally located at 420 South 28th Street. ***FINAL ACTION ***
Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
Staff Planner: George Wesselhoft, 402-441-6366, gwesselhoft@lincoln.ne.gov
Planning Commission ‘final action’: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL, as set forth in the staff report date March 5, 2020: 6-2 (Ryman Yost and Corr dissenting; Finnegan absent). Resolution No. PC-01710.
FOR ANYONE WISHING TO SPEAK ON AN ITEM
NOT ON THE AGENDA, THIS HAS BEEN SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Adjournment 3:20 p.m.

PENDING LIST: None.
TO: Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird  
Lincoln City Council

FROM: Geri Rorabaugh, Planning

DATE: June 25, 2020

RE: Notice of final action by Planning Commission: June 24, 2020

Please be advised that on June 24, 2020, the Lincoln City-Lancaster County Planning Commission adopted the following resolution:

Resolution PC-01710, approving SPECIAL PERMIT 20005, to allow for an alternative to imprisonment facility with up to 6 persons in an existing residence, on property legally described as Lot 22, Block 2, Elm Park, located in the NW 1/4 of Section 30-10-7, Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska, generally located at 420 South 28th Street.

The Planning Commission action on this application is final, unless appealed to the City Council by filing a notice of appeal with the Planning Department within 14 days of the action by the Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission Resolution may be accessed on the internet at www.lincoln.ne.gov (Keyword = PATS). Use the Search Selection@ screen and search by application number (i.e. SP20005). The Resolution and Planning Department staff report are in “Related Documents” under the application number.

F:\devreview\final action notices\cc\2020\062420
Please act now to confront and strategically disassemble modern systemic white supremacy and anti-black racism and their lingering historic effects.

Please criminalize anti-black racism.

Please process all police corruption, brutality, and racism cases without bail.

Please get a reparations for Black slavery Act passed.

Please add blatant historic and systemic modern anti-black racism, white supremacy, and privilege into public school k-12 curriculum. Please include in historic education the Black massacres and Black lynching stories with the alleged accusations that sparked them. Please include the long term psychological and social impacts and their connection to internal bias.

Please.

--
Emily
Campaign for US Universal Health Care

In Your Congressional District

System Mission: optimize primary care systemwide in every state in the US:

- 40,000 Federally Qualified Health Clinics (FQHC) in the US;

- 75 Communities of up to 10,000 people with a Clinic in each Congressional District;

- FQHC Clinics emphasize primary care, interpersonal behavioral health and social services;

- Clinic Teams: 1 MD, at least 1 RN, and several “Community Health Agents”;

- Clinic $25 million annual budget governed by elected 7-member Community Health Council (total US cost of all 40,000 clinics: $1.25 trillion of current $4 trillion spent);

- Daily accountability to federal standards through the Office of Epidemiological Accountability;

- City is federally-mandated to coordinate, plan and develop health resources including medical specialties, hospitals, medical schools, and long term services and support;

- Ongoing daily program evaluation of Clinic services in relation to community needs:
Implementation July 1, 2021: Begin US Universal Health Coverage

- Conversion at the Patient/Taxpayer level from insurance to new payment structure

- Conversion for the individual provider; provision for qualified provider groups up to Kaiser to retain their identity

- Conversion for the hospitals: all hospitals come under the jurisdiction and control of the community clinics grouped with federal legal Memoranda of Understanding (MOU)

- Conversion for the Health Insurance industry: employees aged 60 and older receive a generous retirement package; retraining for all other insurance employees into epidemiological accountability, or transitioning into another line of work

- Establish Health & Human Services (H&HS) 7 member Office of Epidemiological Accountability “Health Information Systems Operations Team”, two physical health, two behavioral health, two social service, one servant-leader, team information guidance and control at each station level: community/clinic, city, Health Service Area, state and national

- Daily accountability of the entire system.

Meeting Purpose: In the Congressional District, organize by geographic and community areas: catalogue all health resources, and build an information network of health providers; identify unmet health needs, for individuals and identified sub-populations; identify potential boundaries for community clinic service areas of up to 10,000 people, design optimal health care delivery system for each of the preliminarily-identified communities of the Congressional District.
Dear Mayor and Lincoln City Council Members:

In our 56 years of paying taxes here in Lincoln, we have NEVER seen such POOR LEADERSHIP from our Mayor and City Council Members!! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH JUST GOOD OLD COMMON SENSE?

All of you transplants, need to go back to YOUR states because Lincoln, NE is NOT going to put up with your nonsense any more. Trying to defund our Police Department-where do these dumb ideas come from. Is this what all our taxes payed to the Lincoln Public Schools are used for - BRAINWASHING the children to join protesters to destroy OTHER PEOPLES PROPERTY AND NONE OTHER THAN OUR COUNTY CITY BUILDING in THEIR own city? This in insane!

All the tax money you use for these ridiculous round-abouts which you lie to us and tell us they are cheaper in the long run. That is nothing but a lie. People need to stop at our red lights so they can calm down with all the ROAD RAGE we have in Lincoln. USE OUR TAX DOLLARS FOR STREET IMPROVEMENT.

Could someone please tell us how much longer the 70th & A Street intersection will be under construction? Why don't you have your CITY WORKERS put in a day's work and get the job completed? Why don't they work on dry days, yes we all see no work being done when the ground is completely dry. You have had great weather so that's no excuse.

Frustrated and Expect Improvement,

Ron and Lynette Nash
Recycling is an essential part of Lincoln's waste management strategy. It saves the city considerable money in reduced costs of maintaining and developing the landfill.

The decision to reduce the number of recycling sites from the current 19 to only 4 or 5 for the entire city will have the inevitable effect of reducing the amount of materials diverted from the landfill.

The story in this morning's Lincoln Journal Star mentioned that two collection sites have been selected so far: the Seacrest Field parking lot and the North 48th St. Transfer Station. This will force residents to drive many more miles to take items to recycling. My wife and I make a trip at least once a month to a recycling site to dispose of all our items.

We would suggest retaining at least one site close to the center of the city, an area that is the focus of many redevelopment efforts--and where many lower-income people live, who can least afford driving so far to recycle. We also believe recycling should be available to people in more remote parts of the city, such as Air Park and southwest Lincoln.

We understand that cutting the number of sites from 19 to a more reasonable figure will save costs. But don't be so drastic. Try reducing it to 10 sites at first, still fairly located around the metro area. See what impact that has on recycling before eliminating most of the convenient recycling locations.

Thank you for your consideration,

Bob and Mary Lou Reeves
3236 Dudley St.
Lincoln, NE 68503
402-464-1803
Dear City Council Members,

As you know, last week the United States Supreme Court passed a landmark decision making it illegal to discriminate against LGBT people in employment. This is a step forward for equal rights in our country. Unfortunately, it is still legal here in Lincoln Nebraska to discriminate against LGBT people in housing and public accommodations. So individuals can legally be denied the right to rent an apartment, enter stores, be served in restaurants, and so on.

You, as City Council members, can change these inequities. You can pass a Fairness Ordinance to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression.

Please make this important change. Help Lincoln be the place we purport to be. It is the right thing to do and now is the time.

Thank you.

Peggy (Pearl) Van Zandt
1800 S. 58th Street
Lincoln, NE 68506
Dear Council Members:

I would like to address the recent riots, the handling of them, and our Police officers. First of all, I am a law abiding citizen and I follow rules. I have no issue with alternative thoughts and feelings and think that is what makes our Country great. But we have to allow all citizens to have their own opinions and not hate those that have opposite points of view.

I am extremely concerned how the Mayor handled the (not peaceful protesters) the riots. To the Mayor and the counsel, I would say, don’t set a curfew if you don’t plan to enforce it. A curfew if set for the entire reason of having people NOT OUT IN PUBLIC during that time. No one should have been out after curfew regardless if they were peaceful or destructive. If you set a curfew, enforce it or why bother. If you set a curfew and allow people to break it, the only thing you are telling them is you don’t need to listen to what I say. And that, is not the sign of a leader. Also, in addition, I am upset that we have had limitations in place that people cannot congregate in certain numbers for the COVID-19 epidemic which has closed business and caused great harm to all business and all people to som
Officials,

It is essential that you take budget money away from the police and reallocate that money into community services that in turn, will reduce crime, as everyone's needs will be cared for.

Defund the police. Reallocate the funds into community services. Our police our grossly overfunded.

Sincerely,
Jamie Reeves
Hi Lincoln City Council Members,

I am emailing you now to let you know that your proposed city budget is disturbing in particular the reduction of public library hours for more police officer body cameras.

I am AGAINST the new proposed city budget and that wish for OUR MONEY to be distributed among more valuable and essential community services.

Dakota Altman
Greetings,

What steps have you taken today towards defunding the police and reallocating money into community services? If you have not taken any steps, when do you plan to take steps to defund the police and reallocate money into community services?

The safest communities do not have the most police, but the most resources.

Signed,
Jamie Reeves
Dear Mayor Gaylor Baird and Members of City Council,

My name is Josie Amoo, and I am a resident of Scottsbluff Nebraska. I do not live in Lincoln, but as a Nebraska citizen I am concerned about the Lincoln Police Department. 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.

Speaking on behalf of Lincoln residents, they 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, and the entire state of Nebraska, 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,

Josie Amoo
Hello,

My name is Emily Lux and I work at a local nonprofit. I was writing to share my disagreement and disappointment with the proposed budget. While at first glance it may seem like a step towards accountability, the proposed budget to increase funding to LPD for body cams is not what our community needs. Studies show that body cams have not had statistically significant or consistent effects on most measures of officer behavior and while the police continue to be in charge of policing themselves, I don’t see how body cams could lead to increased accountability. All this will do is take money that could be put into our already hurting and struggling community.

I work at a local non profit and receive calls from so many people in the community on a regular basis about how they can get certain kinds of help. I am often at a loss because I know they will be tossed around to different phone numbers, none of which are likely able to help that much in a significant enough way, they know it too and I hear the desperation and frustration in their voices. People are really struggling in our community, they need access to long term affordable health care, they need help with bills because their jobs aren't paying a living wage, they need jobs that pay a living wage and give them paid time off. I often have to send them to other organizations that I know will also probably not be able to help, because we only provide help with supplemental food right now. Nonprofits in Lincoln only have very limited capabilities and scopes and everything is tied up in bureaucracy, which makes it nearly impossible for mentally and physically disabled people to navigate and for people who don't speak English as a first language. No one should be without access to health care and I talk to people every day who are unable to get the services they need to survive, let alone thrive. I have been on calls before with desperate parents wondering if they should take their child to the emergency room or not because they know they aren't able to afford it and know that a hospital bill could also put their child's life at risk (which is way outside of my job scope, and should tell you what kind of serious trouble our community is in). The fact that so many people are calling the receptionist at a local nonprofit and looking at me for solutions to figure out how to survive in this community should let you know that something is seriously wrong here and that we are failing our community.

This may seem beside the point, but I'm telling you it is not. I am urging you to put money into your community, our needs are not being met. Please start investing in a thriving community rather than investing in reacting to a community that hasn't had it's needs met. When a majority of the community is spending all of their time trying to survive, and we keep putting money into policing that community
the results will never be different. When we put money into helping the community thrive, you will see a reduced need for the police in the first place.

Thank you,
Emily Lux
Hello,

I am writing today because I believe it is of upmost importance that we defund the police. We should adopt a safer and more comprehensive interpretation of public safety. I ask for this because I would like to see a permanent and total end to police violence, and the mere presence of police is in itself, violence.

Signed,
Jamie Reeves
Dear Mayor Gaylor Baird and Members of City Council,

My name is LuLu Collins 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,

LuLu Collins
LINCOLN, NE
7220 Woody Creek Lane
Lincoln, NE 68516
June 24, 2020

Email To: Honorable Mayor LeRion Gaylor Baird & Honorable Lincoln City Council Members
James M. Bowers
Richard Megennis
Jane Rayhould
Tammy Ward
Sandra Washington
Roy Christensen
Bennie Shobe

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing to show our support for the Lincoln Police Department, and to request that the Lincoln Police budget not be cut, but rather increased. Lincoln is a nice community, that must follow the rule of law. All of our businesses, local development and arena all stay safe and grow because we have laws to protect them. The Lincoln Police Department is charged with the responsibility to make sure our laws are enforced. They form the thin blue line that keeps us away from mob law and armed militias. These duties will never be solved by social workers or community organizers.

For over 20 years I was the Risk Manager for the City of Lincoln, retiring in 2018. During those years, as a part of my job, I reviewed the CALEA accreditation, police liability claims and the General Orders, including the Use of Force policies of the City of Lincoln. I assume that these policies and accreditation have continued since my retirement. Based upon what I know of the Lincoln Police Department, you should be very proud to recognize these officers as one of the top agencies in our state. I also know Chief Jeff Bliemeister and command staff. I know that they are honorable people who would never condone discriminatory actions.

Therefore, let us both again assert that we need the Lincoln Police Department to enforce the law within our city. As Americans, we have the right to assemble and use free speech. However, assembling without a permit, after a lawful curfew, blocking traffic, assaulting others, or damaging property is against the rule of law, and action must be taken by the local community, by our Mayor and City Council to protect all citizens. This is where you must utilize a sufficient law enforcement response, that thin blue line, to protect all residents.

Increase funding for the police and do the right thing, support the rule of law!

Sincerely,

[Signature]

William & Terry Kostner
Send Via Email to: mayor@lincoln.ne.gov and to Councilpacket@lincoln.ne.gov
What a terrible idea. I have been a Tax paying citizen for 30 years in Lincoln. I want my money spent on good please and good firefighters and also street repairs. Your office has been very negligent in all of these issues. I will never vote for you again Or the mayor until these things are fixed.

Sent from my iPhone
I’m emailing you in support of our police department. I am a retired teacher and now care for my grandchildren while their parents are working. I can not imagine life without a well funded police department. Education is the key to bringing our country together. Lack of knowledge is dangerous in the wrong hands. Take money, make it a priority to educate citizens as to what these amazing officers do on a daily basis. Show each one as an individual person with families. Then continue learning for the officers in dealing with the public. And please let them know how much our police department matters to everyone. Put police officers back in all schools. From Kindergarten to seniors in high school. It is expensive but also bridges respect for both parties. Eating and playing with children at recess is an amazing way to really know them. For older students, the positive visibility of an officer is important. It is a base for communication now and in the future.

Cathy Swartz
6636 Saline Dr
Lincoln, NE
My name is Jean Pyle and I want you to know that I am standing for our Police officers and I DONOT agree to defunding our Police Department. Our Police Officers are doing a great job protecting my community. I want to know that I can call anytime and get help from our Police to get help.

I am thank the police officers for your protecting me and my community.

Jean Pyle
jplovesjc@gmail.com
To all Council Members, I wish to voice my support for ADDITIONAL POLICE AND POLICE FUNDING. I do not think that defunding the police or reducing the police force in Lincoln is anyway to operate our city. The safety of our population is very important! Thank you for reading this email and considering my request.

Debby Brehm
Human civilization has been ruled by laws for thousands of years. Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness has been a cornerstone for all of these laws. There have been times that some laws were not good and were corrected. And there have been times when people, or a person, has made up their own laws as in a bad autocrat or dictator.

The important thing to note is that throughout history, the law was corrected or altered to ensure the fairness and equality of all people, but -- the system of law was never destroyed. Why? Because the system works!

I do not believe we should eliminate a system that has been in place for millennia because of a few isolated mistakes and tragedies. Our law enforcement agencies were created and designed to protect the lives and property of innocent, law abiding citizens.

I do not want to diminish the terrible mistakes that a very small number of officers have made in the recent past.

We do not live in a perfect world. The people of the justice
system were given authority to enforce our laws and to keep the peace which has been the basis for our way of life all through global human history. And they make mistakes, as we all do.

Law and order is a system that works. Some parts of our system need to be improved. So let's alter, correct and improve them -- not destroy a historically proven system.

Instead of "de-funding" our law enforcement agencies, maybe we need to give them what they need to make those alterations and improve our system.

As a concerned and sincere citizen, thank you for listening.

Bruce C. Eybel
1500 Garret Lane, Apt. 107
Lincoln, NE 68512
I am sad, disappointed and frustrated in recent events within our community. There is no question our community, our state and our country can do better and there is so much opportunity for positive change but I fear the overall agenda is not the proper place. I am here today to voice my opinion on LPD officers, first Mayor Baird I am extremely disappointed in her lack of support for our towns law enforcement. Those men and women wearing the badge were recently put their to back a curfew that She set. I am appalled by the lack of support she gave those individuals that were only enforcing Her rule. What did she think was going to happen once curfew was enforced…. I knew exactly what was to happen and those individuals were breaking the curfew that again she set. Where is the support towards our law enforcement?

Secondly, I have never been more impressed with a Lincoln chief that I am with Chief Bliemeister. He understands our community and truly cares for it and his team. This shows and has shown through his integrity and interaction with the community not just during this time but the last couple of years of leadership. I commend him for his leadership and can only imagine how terrible his job has been, I want him to know he has support and are proud of him. I follow the LPD page and I am always amazed at how involved they try to be in our community and the good that do and have done. Unfortunately I do not see much/ANY media coverage until it puts them in a negative light.

Last, if you want our law enforcement to step up and be better why are we not equipping them with the more tools to encourage and support them instead of dragging them through the mud and destroying their love and commitment to their thankless job? The Hold cops accountable intuitive can be a positive action but where is the communities accountability and responsibility to do better?

I support our law enforcement, they are put in such terrible and difficult situations every day. Yes there are bad cops out there just like in every profession but they need our support now more than ever. They put their lives on the line to protect, serve and love our community and I sincerely thank them for this.

Andrea Howard
Dear City Council Members,

In these volatile times there have been rash and unreasonable statements made.

Does one Hispanic teen who commits a robbery then label all Hispanic’s as robbers?

If we as a society saw one African American commit a crime, and then we labeled ALL African Americans as criminals would that make sense?

These examples are illogical, yet it seems an entire portion of our society is using this irrational line of thinking.

There are no protests for Black on Black murders are there !!!!

Minneapolis just had a shooting at 2:00 AM several days ago.....defunding of the police has been in place ...did the citizens respond to that event ????  NO ! The Police responded to it !!!

Would you like to rely on you neighbor to come and help you when some one is breaking into your house?

The criminals have guns and they know how to use them!

Our fine men in Blue know that to be skilled with a weapon you must practice and these men frequent the gun ranges to keep up on their skills.

That is not an easy task. Do think our non-police citizen group will be able to take that on so they are ready when a child here in Lincoln is taken to be used in the slave trade and the person who has them has a gun?

Please stop this un-reasonable request and use your time to accomplish other things.

We are watching you and we vote!

Pam May, Lincoln NE
Dear Council Members,

In my 50+ years as a citizen of Lincoln, including 29 years working in Lincoln's Traffic Engineering Division, I have witnessed hundreds of interactions between LPD Officers and individuals in meetings, working special events, and on the street. While the individuals have not always been respectful or civil (actually beligerent in many cases) towards officers, the officers I observed demonstrated amazing respect, restraint and control. I have had the privilege of working with 6 Police Chiefs, over 25 Police Captains, Lieutenants, and Sargents as well as having numerous contacts with other officers of LPD. These men and women are some of the best folks I have had the privilege of knowing.

Just as we must not let the behavior of a few rioters distract from the message of peaceful protesters, we can't let the behavior of a few bad cops in other communities stain LPD's reputation. LPD is understaffed by any measure per capita and if anything needs increased funding to maintain the level of training and professionalism that is the tradition of LPD. Our cops save lives!!

Sincerely,

Rick Haden
Hi, I wanted to reach out to say that it is a very small majority who wishes to defund the police and have anarchy in our great state. Please continue to support our men and women on the force. This is a loud small minority and they don't speak for most reasonable people out there. Thank you for your time.

Jeana Weise
Tried to use the online email but didn’t work so I am trying this route.

This is an email that I sent to the mayor and chief of police on May 8, 2020. I wanted to share because I think it is important for all city leaders to hear from citizens and wish I would have sent it on the 8th.

Subject: scared citizens in Lincoln
To: lpd@CJIS.LINCOLN.NE.GOV, mayor@lincoln.ne.gov
From: Mitsi Money-Beecher <mbeecher@earthlink.net>
Date: Mon, 08 Jun 2020 00:24:18 -0500

Let me just start by saying law abiding citizens are scared.

When the riots in Lincoln and around the country began and continued, good friends of mine (who are wonderful law abiding citizens that happen to be gay and democrat) put a bat under their bed for protection.

I (a female, in her 50’s, a lifelong independent, voter in every election, who founded several nonprofits in which I donate for free 40-50 hours a week volunteering to help our city) decided I am going to buy several guns for my own protection and my personal safety. I know nothing about guns nor does my husband so I am currently doing research to figure out what types of guns I need and where to get training in the use of guns. I am not a wimpy person. I worked in the Lancaster County Jail and Juvenile Detention Center for 7 years while getting my undergraduate and graduate degrees at UNL. I worked in a pod with 50 felony inmates but I have to admit this is the first time I have not felt safe in Lincoln and definitely the first time I will be purchasing a gun.

The unrest of our city and country has caused law abiding citizens to be scared. Scared because we don’t think that our city leaders can or will protect us. Scared because some people are being allowed to commit crimes and violence in our city and across the country. Scared because people are not being charged with crimes if they are under the disguise of protest. Scared because our police are not allowed to protect our city or themselves or us.
Scared because police in our city are being demonized.

In Lincoln I saw in footage and reports that a business owner was out front of his businesses protecting it along with several peaceful protesters who agreed to help protect the business. This is unbelievable that business owners have to do this in our city. Other cities fared worse where small ethnic businesses were allowed to be looted, vandalized, set on fire and ruined under the disguise of protest. These small businesses and owner have lost their livelihood and are not going to recover.

A fellow animal rescue person that is an officer shared a description of the violence that was endured by a fellow officer during the riots in Lincoln.
This officers couldn’t protect themselves from being soaked with gasoline while people attempted to set them on fire with fireworks. It is a crime to be attempted to be burned to death but no one was arrested because it was under the disguise of a protest instead of what it really was which is a crime.
Our officers in Lincoln are very good but the push for disbanding law enforcement will create a lawless society if allowed to happen. I plead that our city leaders stay strong and continue to protect our city and our citizens. The winners in a lawless society are the criminals and the rapist who will love a disbanded or decreased law enforcement presence. Our females will especially pay the price as well as all the other law abiding citizens when it will cause a huge spike in crime especially against women. This is a scary world and getting scarier by the minute.

I have to admit that I have been stopped by police three times without cause. The first time was in Kansas City 30 years ago. The most recent time was by a corrupt officer in Raton, New Mexico that was around 6 years ago. We were driving our older pickup that we had used to move our daughter to Las Vegas to attend graduate school in marriage and family counseling. We were targeted because of the older pickup and the corrupt officer saw us at gas station and made up a story about how he saw us run a stop sign. We tried to fight this and hired an attorney from a nearby town and he got the audio of the officer lying from the car he pulled over the same way prior to us and the auto from our stop. But when we drove 6 to 7 hours for the trial the corrupt police department got the judge to take the afternoon off of our trial which was on a Tuesday afternoon at 1pm and they told our attorney at 6pm the day before that they would keep doing this each time we drove down for the trial. They also told us that they were mad because we wrote a letter to the governor of New Mexico about the corrupt officer. Our attorney recommended that we agree to pay the court costs and then they would drop the charges. We had to do this because we could not take off work each time to try to get a trial that would never happen.

My point in telling this story is that even though this happened and we had several bad encounters with police, I still want police protecting our community and communities around the country as do most law abiding citizens. All officers are not corrupt or bad and all officers are not good but a world without laws and enforcement of the laws will be a very scary place. This is why I am a very scared citizen. Thank you for listening.

Melissa Money-Beecher
Lincoln, NE 68526
402 304 8155
I have to say this is probably one of the most dumbest things I ever heard of. Most of the cops are good cops. Maybe they need to have refresher course every so often to make sure they're doing their job properly. This world would be in chaos without the police! I don't know who thinks this is a bright idea to defund the police department needs to have a brain exam! Sincerely Valerie

Valeria
To defund the police would be to invite anarchy and chaos. It would only hurt the people in the high crime areas.

If the police are defunded, the only way to defend ourselves is to get a conceal carry license and arm ourselves.

Please support the police.

Thanks

S. Wayne Smith
6345 S 35th Ct
Lincoln, NE 68516
402 419-0888
Ladies & Gentlemen,

I am very proud of the outstanding service that the Lincoln Police Department has always provided for the citizens of Lincoln regardless of their race, creed, religion or social status. These men and women come to work each day with the goal of serving and protecting our community and they do an OUTSTANDING job. Without their enforcement of the Laws of the City & State... Lincoln would quickly dissolve into a place citizens could not live or do business.

Thanks for your time!

Roger Hulinsky
6720 X St, Lincoln, NE 68505
I am a resident of Lincoln, NE, a registered voter, a homeowner and a small business owner.

I chose to live in Lincoln and raise a family here years ago for many reasons, one of which was for the overall safety for all Lincoln residents. I do not in any way support defunding or reducing the city’s police force. No city, large or small, can deal effectively with criminals through the use of counselors rather than armed police officers. I will be watching the elected officials carry out their duties and vote accordingly. The use of counselors can be effective after individuals have gone through the legal system to better prepare and support individuals making positive life choices.

Criminals are dangerous individuals and our city’s police officers are our best resource when it comes to responding to crimes.

Each elected official is to carry out their duties based on what is best for the city overall, not based on a poorly thought out, poorly planned and seemingly childish notions. I see that throughout the United States far too many elected officials have implemented new policies and have allowed residents to behave in destructive and violent ways that have caused very serious danger for all their constituents. Real life consequences have taken place and in these other cities far too many innocent lives have now been lost due to city leaders failing to lead.

Individuals that failed to comply with the officially established and published curfew should most definitely be held accountable. These individuals violated the curfew and now they must face the natural consequences for their actions.
Dear Council members,
I am writing in support of funding for the Lincoln Police Department. This is a matter of public safety which should not be politicized at the risk of harm to the citizens and visitors in Lincoln.
If some additional training is required, I support funding it with additional funds, not from cuts.
Thank you for your consideration.
Senator Robert Clements

--
Senator Robert Clements
Legislative District 2
rclements@leg.ne.gov
402.471.2613
I am reaching out to you to express my concern regarding the movement to defund the police department. I have been married to my LPD officer for 25 years, used to work for LPD and I have never meant anyone who I would not show my support for at LPD, LSO or any other operations of these divisions. I am against the defunding of the police. You have an amazing and dedicated police department, why would you want to disrupt this? Show your support and continue to recognize the amazing department you are blessed to have. I feel truly blessed living and raising my children in this community, where police and community continue to build positive relations. I only think defunding the police department would truly hurt them and our community as a whole.

Thank you for your time.

Cheryl Munn
Hello,

I am writing to you in hopes you do not defund the police in Lincoln. We need to continue protection from the great police officers that already serve Lincoln.

Thank you for your time,
Samantha Munn
Fund police

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get Outlook for Android
From: Emily Weeks <emilybellaweeks@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 6:12 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Funding

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

Our police dept must be fully funded to protect our community.
Dear Lincoln City Council members,

I am reaching out to urge your continued support for the Lincoln Police Department. In light of recent event, I realize you are hearing from many who are asking you to defund or redirect funding for the police. Please don’t be swayed by the loud calls from the few. Our police department has exhibited restraint and has exemplary leadership. Our community would benefit from additional officers on the streets, rather than fewer.

Please consider the long term effects of less enforcement in our city and I urge you not to support any effort to provide less funding to our hard working men and women in law enforcement!

All the best,

Senator Suzanne Geist

Legislative District 25
Room #2000
402-471-2731
sgeist@leg.ne.gov
Greetings,
We have been fortunate for years and years and years to benefit from the security that our Law Enforcement has given us.
I am asking the Lincoln City Council to give them the support they need to continue to do their job.
Helen Sellentin
I fully support our law enforcement employees. They do a great job.

Kirk Bowers
4800 Bear Creek rd
Lincoln, Ne 68516
I fully support our Law enforcement personnel. They do a great job.

Kirk Bowers
4800 Bear Creek Rd
Lincoln, Ne 68516
I support the police!
As a constituent I want to voice my support for equitable/rational support Of police. I recognize the value of a balanced approach, especially with sensitive subjects, but encourage diligence on this matter.

Thank you,

Jerad Reimers
2225 Independence Drive
Lincoln, NE 68521

Sent from my iPhone
Dear Council Packet,

I write to you today to express my concern regarding any consideration to decrease or defund our Lincoln Police Dept budget. We've seen examples just this last weekend of serious, increased violence in other communities, and those most affected are those most economically disadvantaged in our inner-city.

I have been the victim of a seriously impaired drunken driver at 1:00am in the morning---Lincoln Police Dept handled the situation very promptly, ably and appropriately.

Weed out the bad cops, and provide increased training to current law enforcement personnel. We need MORE cops in our schools and on our streets, not fewer. The main function of local government is to protect its' citizens.

Thank you,
Darlene Starman
8132 Hickory Lane
Lincoln, NE. 68510
402-432-2647

Get Outlook for Android
Dear city council members

I do NOT support any movement to de-fund police. I support our Police and take a stand against this movement of lawlessness that is attempting to destroy our city in the great state of NE

Thank You
Denise Heinert
From: M Ralston <mr coffeeroaster@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 7:24 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Keep Funding

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

Our city doesn't need to become a Seattle. Thank you
Good evening,

As a resident of Lincoln, I ask that you continue to fully fund the Lincoln Police Department. Across the country, people are calling to defund the police, which would be a grave mistake. The vast majority of police officers understand and uphold their vocation to serve and protect society, putting themselves in harms way to keep the public safe. Offering additional resources, such body cams or expanding available training, would be ways to support our police and increase public safety.

Thank you for your time.

~Katie Quintero  
6421 Monticello Dr.  
Lincoln, NE 68510  
squittio.topo@gmail.com  

--  
"You don't love someone for their looks, or their clothes, or for their fancy car, but because they sing a song only you can hear." - Oscar Wilde

"A room without books is like a body without a soul." -G.K. Chesterton

"The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only a page." - Saint Augustine

"Hateful to me as are the gates of hell, is he who, hiding one thing in his heart, utters another." ~Homer
To Whom It May Concern: I stand by our police. It bothers me that they are being painted by a broad brush in response to a few bad bristles. I would never support defunding those who courageously protect me by enforcing the laws. I assume that morale must be so low in precincts across this country. How very sad. May Lincoln always go out of her way to verbally and financially support our men and women in blue. Sincerely, Kathy Jenkins
I support our police! We need them for our safety and security in our community! We should be adding more police officers, not cutting their funding!!

Addie Egan
Good Evening,

It has come to my attention that Lincoln City Council may be considering defunding our local police department. I am emailing to voice my concern in regards to this matter. I am completely against this; in fact I believe they should receive more. Like our other first responders and educators they are severely underpaid. We are now seeing what happens when you don't have law and order in Seattle....young kids are being shot and first responders are not being allowed to help. How does this make sense? If you want to help reform the police departments, make an example and get rid of the Unions that protect the bad cops from getting fired when they have no right to wear a badge because of their behavior. Please be smart and make the decisions for our City; if we start taking more away from the men and women who keep you and your families safe day and night, they will no longer be anyone willing to make that sacrifice for you.

Thank-you,
Simara Diehlman
Lincoln Resident and registered voter
I do not support disband or defund of the LPD. The police department upholds the rules and laws made by our government and other institutions..... racism that exists, is abundant throughout every institution in our community and can not simply be blamed on the individuals that are tasked with upholding law and peace. I fear that the anger and hate that was cast on our officers over the weekend of May 31st will and has caused irreparable trauma to innocent individuals and their families. I pray that the City Council and the Mayor will be able to find find a way to show their support to law enforcement while also working to end institutionalized racism that exists in all areas of our society. Please acknowledge and send a message that our entire community is to blame for the racism that exists instead of promoting the idea that our Law Enforcement is the sole cause of racial injustice in the Lincoln Community.

Courtney Kossow
From: Raina <rl.volkmer@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 8:25 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Fund LPD

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

Do the right thing and fund our police. My children’s and your children’s security depends upon it.

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

I support the police here in Lincoln and all over the country!! We need them!

Jodi Osborn

Sent from my iPhone
I am not in support of defunding the Lincoln Police Department.
I 100% support the work our police department is doing.

Cathy Sabata

"Remember when you leave this earth; you can take nothing that you have received.
Only what you have given: A heart enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice and courage."
- St. Francis of Assisi
[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I support our law enforcement and do not want them defunded. It is important for our city and our country to have a safe environment for everyone.

I have always believed our law enforcement has been community based by the actions they have shown. I want this continued.

Our law enforcement are already understaffed for a city of our size. Their funding should actually be increased. The mayor ran on adding six police officers.

Keep Lincoln safe and secure.

Billie Bussmann

Sent from my iPhone
I hope the Lincoln City Council will realize that our police department should not be compared to some of the abuses that are happening in some places in this country. Lincoln, NE is so fortunate to have Chief of Police Bliemeister as well as the outstanding police department that he commands. PLEASE DO NOT cut funding for the LPD. Our entire city would pay the price for cutting this funding. I have been fortunate to have traveled to many places in the world and have always felt fortunate to return and call Lincoln home. I hope, as City Council members, you will make every effort to keep Lincoln as the city it has always been, welcoming to all regardless of race or nationality. Thank you for your consideration.

Joyce Hasselbalch
3520 S. 76 St.
Lincoln, NE
I have heard there are a few people demanding that you defund the police. As a lifelong citizen in the city of Lincoln, I am asking and demanding that you choose to support our local law enforcement and maintain funding for our police. Few people sacrifice so much for the safety of others and they have flaws and make mistakes just as all of us do.

I understand and empathize with those who believe that the police are out to get them and feel as though the chief of police and local law enforcement have done what they can to encourage positive relationships with all citizens. One Bad cop shouldn’t brand them all. I do not believe that the “systemic racism” is backed up by statistical evidence and many black police officers who have been speaking out about what they are experiencing, these accounts also defy the claim of systemic racism.

If you want to help race relationships then maybe we need to be holding our news media accountable for their false claims that flood the tv and airways. I believe at this time we need to be bringing everyone together. As I look at what’s happening in other states where police have stopped responding due to their concerns for being thrown in prison or killed for being a cop. There is chaos and destruction and people losing their legally gained possessions and lives. 121 people were shot or killed in those areas in the past two days children are included in that number. I worry about this taking place in our beautiful city.

I know your looking for ways to improve relationships with all citizens so allow me to suggest a few things I would support. I would support better training for officers, including Safe grappling techniques to subdue a violent suspect. In addition, as a woman I believe that all women who choose to serve as police should be able to pass the same physical testing as their male counterparts. This is because I do believe that women biologically are not designed to build strength as well as men. I am not aware of current PT testing but officers should have to pass an annual PT to ensure they are still physically able to handle the job.

I pray that God will help guide you as you take steps to bring us all together.

Thank you for taking the time to read and respond.
Corenia Bierbaum
Lincoln, NE 68504
4028440212
Sent from my iPhone
I support Lincoln police we need them to keep our neighborhoods safe. Not let a bunch of radicals influence our city to take away our safety from the criminals. You were voted in as a representative of the people and your job is to keep us safe not take away our police. Because of one bad cop in Minnesota you want to change our police department? If you do vote to defund you need to get replaced next election.

Sent from my iPhone
I support law enforcement and keeping our neighborhoods safe. This should be our local political leaders top priority!!

Debbie Hamernik
Dmmcrow@aol.com
402-730-5769
Dear Mayor and the members of the City Council:

As a resident of Lincoln, I do not want to see our Police Department's Budget to be cut. If anything, I want more police officers added.

I support our Police and respect the job they are doing.

--

Mike Davis
402-480-0404 cell
Holy Spirit, tell me what I ought to do and command me to do it.

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven." (Mt. 7:21)
Dear City Council,

I wanted to make it known that I believe the majority of the Lincoln community supports LPD by simply obeying the curfew that was put in place during the protests. I am disappointed by so many things that have happened in our community in the past few weeks, but to punish our local police for doing the job they were asked to do disappoints me the most. So many people who I’ve spoken to feel the same way.

If we allow to defunding of the department we will be doing a disservice to the City of Lincoln as a whole, and will hurting a segment of the population that need a police presence in their area. Defunding the police will victimize victims that can benefit from LPD being a liaison with other community and social services that they might otherwise not be connected with.

I am also concerned for the officers in the department. We will lose many quality officers. For those that choose to stay, they will be overworked as there will be no way to keep up with the demands of a growing community and a shrinking department. The department has been understaffed for years. Cutting funding and freezing hiring will not make our community a safer place more desirable place to live.

We live in such a wonderful community I hate to see it implode. I believe LPD is a model department and the city council should be proud of the work LPD does. In other words if it isn’t broke why fix it?

Thank you,

Melanie Pflanz
To Whom It May Concern,

I want to express my support for all law enforcement in Lincoln and its surrounding areas. Our communities are safer because of the men and women willing to risk their lives to save ours each day. I think defunding the police would be a very dangerous decision.

Sincerely,

Katie Krivolavek
Lincoln Resident in Waterford Estates
(402)405-4299
I just wanted to let you know that I am in support of LPD and all the great things they do for the city of Lincoln. They have always been helpful and accessible when I have needed them. I sleep safer at night knowing our city has great officers protecting it. My fiancé is applying to join LPD because he wants to protect and serve his community. It is important that we remember why these men and women have chosen to make law enforcement their career, to protect their loved ones!
My family and I fully support all law enforcement. Defunding the police means putting us and our community in danger. Please keep our law enforcement!
Thank you Drew, Laura, Jordan, Jake, Jack, Harper and Brantley
Angela M. Birkett

From: Abbie Seitz <abbieseitz@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 9:56 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Against defunding the police

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

Dear city council,

I hope this email finds you well.

I am writing to share my opinion on the ‘defund the police’ movement. I, for one, disagree with the idea whole heartedly. I have been a citizen of Lincoln, Nebraska, for the last 13 years. I have always felt safe and secure here, and a large part of that is the peace of mind that the Lincoln police department provides me and my family. Without the LPD working in full force I would not feel as protected and secure.

In order for the LPD to do their jobs safely (a priority), and excellently (like I believe they have), they need to continue with the funding they’ve been provided in the past. Simply put, our city wouldn’t be nearly as safe or connected without the training and outreach that their funding provides.

City safety first- I believe that in order for Lincoln to grow, business and community alike, we need law and order. As a basic principle since the United States was founded, law and order is what drives us to thrive!

The LPD is also a huge part of our community, especially where our children are concerned. For example, and something near to my heart, what would happen in our schools if we had no officers present? The LPD officers in the public school system not only protect our kids, but they also show compassion for them, give them someone to look up to, and provide ways for our students to learn about community involvement.

In summation, the good life here in Lincoln just wouldn’t be the same without our amazing Lincoln police department. Please consider going against the ‘what’s cool now’ thinking and continue to give us citizens the police force we both love and deserve.

Kindly,
Abbie Mullendore, a concerned Lincoln citizen

Sent from my iPhone
Hello,
I am writing this email to support Lincoln police. DO NOT defund them!
What happened Memorial Day weekend proves exactly why we need the police.
I know many officers who pour their heart and soul into their job - and it goes beyond just when they
put on their uniform.
No other profession sacrifices as much as these officers do. They miss birthdays, holidays and even
sleeping in bed with their own spouse. They give so, so much.
Please keep their full funding and ask the mayor to rightfully support them!
Michelle Jensen - Lincoln Public Schools educator
I want to send my support for LPD and all the great things they do for the city of Lincoln. They have always been helpful and accessible when I have needed them. I sleep safer at night knowing our city is protected by these men and women!
I wanted to express my support for the men and women who are part of LPD - who make our city a better place each and every day. It would be absolute chaos without them. They not only answer to calls of crime, but they engage with the community in positive ways and make a difference in people’s lives. They need our support now more than ever. Please don’t let what has gone on in our nation distort your view of LPD. They are good people who are more than just a badge. They need to know that someone has their backs. Defunding our police is the last thing we should be considering right now.

Katelyn Espinoza
Sent from my iPhone I wanted to write to say how wonderful I believe our police department has been throughout all of this last month. I can’t believe the horrible things that they have had to experience! The patience that they have had to have to endure the torment of people truly evil towards them is truly amazing. I love our police department and I am completely behind backing them in whatever way I can. Please to NOT defund our police and ruin our community! I love Lincoln!

Thank you

Heidi Jensen
I would like to express my full support for the Lincoln city police department. My husband has been a police officer in Lincoln for 16 years and loves his job.

Rumors of possible defunding of the police department has my heart heavy. Please don’t take away the tools that he relies on to protect himself and the citizens of Lincoln.

I appreciate you backing the support of the police department and all that they do for the community.

Thank you for your time.
Jenny Powell
402-730-8248
Dear Council Members -

I’m writing to express my support for Lincoln Police. We are painting in broad strokes and operating in extremes, and as a result, we are often shortsighted. Too much context has been set aside, and there is very little real understanding of what our realities would be in a world where police have been defunded or dismantled. We are fortunate in this community to have the support of a police department that operates with integrity. These are good public servants who step up selflessly day after day for very little respect and not nearly enough gratitude. We take their role for granted. Let’s not punish them for the bad choices of others. Let’s remember we can support Black Lives Matter movements AND support our police. We need both. I’ve seen firsthand the dedication our Police have put into creating programs that build bridges (like Project Tipping Point). We need our police and I’m disappointed in the lack of public support I’ve seen from our council and elected officials. Please do better.

Shelley Sorensen
Lincoln Resident

Sent from my iPhone
Our community needs to re-think how we do policing in 2020. Give the police staff the support they need to do their job, and to let other entities share in the mental health and social services that they provide without sufficient training or resources. Members of our community should be given the services that they need, not just go to jail.

I believe LPD needs:

- Standardized training
- Standardized pay
- Increased Mental Health Services for Officers
- Increased use of Social Work and Mental Health services for the public/ community when engaged in interactions with the police

Thank you

Carol

Ut in omnibus glorificetur deus

"That in all things the Divine may be glorified"
We are in support of keeping the Lincoln Police Department. We DO NOT favor defunding the Lincoln Police Department.

Mark & deb Kubik
[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please continue funding for LPD! Not only for the officers, but for this community! Not all police officers make the choices the select few have made.
We love our police. We need our police. We support the Lincoln police dept.

Elaine Carver
402.326.6271
I do NOT support defunding LPD.

The police department has my support 100%

Renee Lutz
Lincoln
I am outraged our city is entertaining the idea of defunding or reducing the budget for our law enforcement. The silent majority are busy working and haven’t had a voice in this debate, as so many of us do not want to appear rude or God forbid, racist. As you can see in many cities who have adopted an apologetic attitude for ALL law enforcement instead of the small few who sparked this movement, anarchy and chaos will fill the void as police retreat. Giving power to the “mob” only emboldens their lawlessness and creates destruction for citizens who positively contribute to our community.

I expect the city council and mayor to uphold our rights as law abiding citizens who deserve to maintain the safety and freedoms we enjoy in Lincoln. If anything, budgets should be INCREASED to attract good people who, even after watching how law enforcement have been demonized, assaulted, and murdered, are still willing to put their lives on the line each & every day to ensure my safety and well being. Heaven help us if some sanity and common sense doesn’t prevail. I don’t want to see any part of our beautiful city resemble CHAZ.

Sincerely,

Erin-Ann Scott
To whom it may concern:

I am truly disappointed anyone would feel the police should be defunded. I completely support the Lincoln Police department and their peace keeping efforts.

What we have seen across the country has been painful and laced with angry images. The context of the videos have been distorted as we do not always understand the entire situation.

The Lincoln Police Department May be one of the most diverse departments in the nation. The complaints are extremely low and once again, the entire context of each negative video needs to be looked at before judgement is handed down.

The police department are under the constant eye of the camera, put into situations where they are not asked to do heroic feats, but it seems they always step up verses stepping away.

The Lincoln Police department help educate and offer protection to kids when they may not have anywhere else to turn for help. They help those who others turn away due to hardships in life. They do not turn away from anyone, or roll up their windows to avoid communicating with someone based off of a first impression. The individuals also have to be ready for violent acts against them at all times due to the erosion of our legal system.

The police work around the clock trying to help. Yes help. They go into places most would not consider entering, to help. Help comes in many forms. Sometimes it’s attending an event at the zoo, and sometimes help begins after arrests are made. At times, they remove people from situations that are harmful, such as the case of a person battling addictions or violence. The help begins once the person is removed from the possible illegal, or dangerous location. That is what we as a society ask them to do.

We can’t control any person and their choices. However, we have all agreed to co exist and live within the laws of the land. At times, it’s a tough love situation and the police department has to step in as their job is to enforce laws others have written.

What we saw in other communities is heart breaking. The street violence we see on TV or through social media can be twisted to persuade individuals to Change their perceptions. When was the last incident where they truly made the wrong decisions for no reason, or made decisions to become violent with anyone, who did not first instigate violence towards the police department?

Our community has not been struggling with citizen and police relations. The streets and buildings in Lincoln have been torn up recently based on the actions and decisions of a very small percentage of people. One can not judge an entire police departments history based off of a few nights of chaos.
The people of the Lincoln Police department are everyday citizens who are held accountable to the laws just as those who break them. Punish those who do wrong, but not the entire backbone of our society known as the Lincoln Police department.

Thank you for listening, my vote us to support.

Dean Biggerstaff
I am writing to you in SUPPORT of LPD. It is of utmost importance that our city continues to maintain a safe and secure environment. This can only be accomplished through CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT of our police department.

DO VOTE TO CONTINUE FUNDING OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT AT THE CURRENT LEVEL OR ABOVE.

Thank you for your attention to this extremely important matter.

Cindy Miller
We support the police!! We appreciate the order and compassion they bring to our city. We feel safe and want to show our support for continuing to fund them.

Katie Amick

Sent from my iPhone
Good morning!

I am 100 percent supportive of LPD and all that they do. They serve our community day in and day out. They give their 100 percent and still go home to their families and give 100 percent to them. It takes a very selfless human to become a police officer. They give everything to their community. They take an oath to protect and serve. They are true heroes in my book! I can never imagine what their families go through every time they go to work. The not knowing if they are safe or not, would definitely take a toll on me.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for protecting and serving my community!! LPD - you are all amazing and as for my family and me, we will always support you all and appreciate all you do for us!!

Sincerely,

Elaine Everley

Sent from my iPhone
We support our police officers. We respect them and the work they do.

Gary Carver
402-429-5508
Lincoln, NE 68507
I am writing this in support of the LPD and all local law enforcement. I have heard that there are calls to defund the police here in Lincoln, NE. I could not disagree with this proposal more, if anything we need to allocate more funds for police training. I have had nothing but good experiences with LPD officers and Lincoln fireman. I can't speak for everyone but the overwhelming majority of citizens I have spoken to in my community feel the same as I do and want a police presence to uphold law and order when necessary.

Thank you.

--

Levi Boldt 430-6601
Good morning Council Members,
I am writing to show support for the Lincoln Police Department. Defunding the police is an absurd thought in my mind. Our police need to be held accountable to the high standards to protect and serve the community. To assist them in attaining those high standards, I support increased training and mental health support. I am not sure if Lincoln Police are required to wear body cameras, but I would also like to share my support of body cameras to ensure proper safety and techniques are being used.

I value our police officers and am thankful they were in place when my house was broken into in December, 2012. Without law and order, our democracy would crumble and fall into anarchy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Michelle Squier
Lincoln Resident
We support LPD and Hope you will, too! We need our Law Enforcement and are appreciative of all they do to protect Lincoln.
Good Morning,

It has been brought to our attention that there has been discussions regarding defunding the Lincoln Police Department. We do not understand why these discussions would even be held in light of all the protests and damage done in the last few weeks. Where would we be without the protection of the police? We support our police department as it is. These people are selfless and devoted to the protection of their fellow citizens.

We encourage you to support the police. Our tax dollars are used to fund the police. Please stand up for the police and do not consider defunding the people who protect us.

Thank you for your time.

Merlyn and Pat Bartels
7812 Ringneck Drive
Lincoln, NE
Council Members of the Lincoln City Council:

As a mother, mother-in-law, aunt of law enforcement personnel, and former 911 City employee, I trust that you will look at all facets of the law enforcement aspect before making any decisions that may hinder police and fire from doing their jobs as they go about daily protecting us and saving lives.

Do I believe there is room for improvement, yes, as there is in every aspect of City government and in every aspect of all our lives. Please consider our law enforcement department on its own merit and not let yourselves overact to issues outside of our community. Law enforcement continues to need the community’s support so they can do their jobs of protecting each and EVERY ONE of us everyday of the year, 24x7.

I have always and will continue to support LPD, LSO, LFR as well as other public service agencies and hope you will make an unbiased decision regarding any future changes to these services.

Thank you for your time.

Carol Ripley
I support law enforcement. LPD does a fantastic job. As a representative of me, I hope you do too.
Defunding police

I understand there is a meeting to take place about defunding police departments. Very disappointed that this kind of meeting is even being considered across America today. Should this be voted to happen in anyway, there will be I foresee repercussions throughout even Lincoln Nebraska. This rioting and protesting had gone way too far as the laws have been not enforced as they should have been because elected leaders are weak. I remember the 1960’s very well and here we go again. I do support the blue and have had many many family and friends engaged to protect our safety and people considering to defund our police because as an excuse of a very low percentage of bad cops is very lame.

Sent from my iPhone
Surveys by a prior mayor indicated our first responders are a priority. Defunding would be the exact opposite. The City has one of the lowest ratios for officer to citizen as it is. Considering the current and past mayor’s decisions to maintain this low ratio is disappointing. I believe we need more funding to support better training, to support better selection processes for hiring. Defunding supports the opposite. Defunding leads to vigilantes. Defunding leads to slower response times, less services provided, higher crime rates, higher insurance costs to citizens. This “defunding” is a slippery slope. I would support more funding for our Law Enforcement.

Sent from my iPad
From: Van Mueller <vanmueller2@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 9:22 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Please do not even consider the idea of defunding the police force in the city of Lincoln, NE. I can’t and don’t want to imagine what life would be like without the protection of our police force. No one would be safe!!! Neither lives (the most importa...
Hi there,

I am a Pro-Police supporter. Our police risk their lives to keep us safe. They protect us. They care. They protect our students in schools.

Defunding the police is unheard of. It’s beyond ridiculous.

Support the Lincoln Police Department.

Thank you.
Alison

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

I fully support our men and women in blue. The police need our support and encouragement as they risk their lives each and every day.
It saddens my heart that we have come to this.
God bless and keep our police officers out of harms way.
Pro-police!!!!!!
Christie Taege

Sent from my iPhone
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 broken and all police are bad.

Thank you
Jennifer Arthur
We need our police force to keep us safe. We pay taxes mainly for government (through the police) to keep law and order. I do not hear the defund police movement offering any alternatives. It is much easier to destruct then construct. Conversation can help adjust things if needed, but throwing everything out is anarchy and tyranny. That is not what I want. Please continue to fund the police.
There is no doubt in my mind that police are an essential part of this country and every city and town. Thank you for your time.
Dear Council Members,

I am asking you to support and fully fund our LPD! I need my family to live in a city where we can get help and feel protected. I want to feel safe in my community. Do not make the mistake of giving in to a radical liberal agenda that is meant to destroy our freedoms!

Heather Hansen
Lincoln, NE resident
Dear Council members,

I am writing to request that you continue to support and fund our local law enforcement agencies. These dedicated women and men have our best interests in mind as they provide their professional services. We all are human and need to grow and improve daily. There is always room to do better for each one of us. I support taking a hard look at how law enforcement can be better. However, defunding and leaving that void is not the best course of action. Citizens need to take a look at themselves to be better citizens. Government officials need to look at themselves for the center of their service - is it to serve the public, or to promote self and personal agendas. There is plenty to be done on all fronts.

I thank you for your service and respectfully request that you provide safety and security by continuing to fund and support the Lincoln Police Department.

Kathy Hill
My family deeply respects and supports our Lincoln City police department. I encourage you to quickly dismiss any movement or pressure to defund our police. We need them in these trying times!

Get Outlook for Android
Lincoln City Counsel

I have been a resident of Lincoln Ne. for 30 + years. I have been a Real Estate Agent/Broker for 23 years in Lincoln Ne. The idea that we are even considering defunding the Lincoln Police Department is disappointing to me at a level that I almost can not express!!! I worked for the Department of Correctional Services for 14 years and the Lancaster County Jail for 7 years prior to my Real Estate career. I know a little something about dealing with the general public both good and the very worst.

Defunding the police is absurd!!!! Who is going to deal with the 911 calls for the routine drunk & disorderly’ s that occur every single day of the year? Who is going to deal with anything that requires any skill set other than simply talking. I can speak form experience that without the knowledge of a perpetrator knowing there are immediate consequences for unruly actions there is NO good ending for this situation. I know what it is like to be spit on, punched, threatened and attempted to have been stabbed. Do you thinks a social worker is going to handle this situation? You would be incorrect in that assumption.

From what I have seen for 30 years in Lincoln Ne. our local Lincoln Police Department and the Lancaster County Sheriff’s Department has been exemplary in handling every single issue I can remember. I have worked with these fine folks on many occasions during my employment at the Lancaster County Jail. At NO time during my stay in Lincoln have I thought, “we need to get someone trained to handle this”. NEVER!!!!

I compete in a sport that requires me to travel quite a bit across the nation. The cities that are in the process of defunding their police right now have me concerned. I am supposed to be in Minneapolis Minnesota the first weekend in August 2020. I can tell you that if their situation continues to decline I will not be making the trip to Minneapolis. I assure you if Lincoln Defunds their police departments this will create a negative perception for Lincoln Ne. This will in turn create less business opportunities and fewer people wanting to move to Lincoln Ne.. In short this is HORRIBLE FOR BUSINESS!!!!!!!

It is my request and recommendation to continue the current levels of employment for both the Lincoln Police Department and the Lancaster County Sheriff’s Department.

Sincerely

Rob Predmore
Associate Broker
Nebraska Realty
6301 S 58th St. Lincoln Ne. 68516
402-540-3818
The information contained in this email is privileged and confidential information intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify the sender via return email and permanently delete the original message from your system. If you want to be removed from the email system click on "Reply" and in the "Subject" box say "Remove". Thank you.
City Council Members,

It seems ridiculous that I have to be sending this email, but I want to make sure that my voice is heard. I am concerned about mine and my families safety if you start defunding our police force. It is imperative that we have a group of people we can call when there is criminal activity going on. If these people who are screaming about defunding the police don't care about their own safety, then let those of us with common sense speak for them. I hope those of you on the council have common sense and don't buy into their rhetoric.

Thank You,
Heather Downs
From: Christi Loy <classygalshair@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 11:29 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police

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

Please please do not defund police !! This is the most ridiculous thing I have ever heard !!!!!
Christi Loy
Sent from my iPhone
Dear City Council -

Just a short note that my wife and I believe in the time honored (and constitutionally protected) right to PEACEABLY protest. We don't support the few that riot and damage other people's property. We also support our police and first responders. We know several of them personally and think they have a very difficult job. We need to support them, NOT defund them.

Regards,

Mark & Corinne Wible
I am pro funding the Lincoln police department. Please advise on how we can help.

Thank you,
Hali Durst
I 100% support funding our dedicated Police!

Jill Baker
I am saddened to hear that so many people are wanting to defund our police department. Our officers may not be perfect, but no one is perfect. They go to work every day not knowing if they will make it home to their families. They put their lives on the line to protect us all. They do the best with each situation that arises, thinking and acting quickly. We have a wonderful police force and we need them to be fully funded.

I watched some of the live videos from the protests in downtown Lincoln and am appalled at the actions of the rioters and protesters who were throwing water bottles at our officers and expecting them to just take that kind of disrespect. After hearing that others had gasoline thrown at them and fireworks, I felt sick to my stomach. How can that be okay when our officers were trying to peacefully keep the crowd under control. Force was needed! I’m sorry that some peaceful protesters got hurt, but it’s hard to tell who is attacking when so many are causing trouble. If things were getting violent, those protesters could have left, they chose not to. That is not the fault of our police who repeatedly asked them to leave and go home. If the protesters aren’t willing to stay out of the fire, they will get burned. I’m just so upset by this whole situation. It was their choice to be there when things turned ugly. Our police officers shouldn’t be punished for the protesters/rioters actions.

I am so thankful that our officers are here to protect us and uphold the law when there is need. They are needed and I fully support them! Please do not allow them to be defunded because of the actions of others.

Sincerely,
Misti Jamison

Sent from my iPhone
I and several others will not feel safe in this community if you take on the role of defunding the law enforcement. Think about all the revenue that the city and county will lose when people move because they don’t feel safe. You might as well quit building apartments, houses, beltways etc... Are you ready for people to have to take the law in their own hands. If people would obey the laws we would be fine but this is getting totally ridiculous. You have become a laughingstock.

Sent from my iPhone
Lincoln City Council,

Thank you for taking the time to read my email. Please know that Lincoln supports our police department. We have one of best in the country. This scary notion that we for some reason must “defund the police” is insane, radical and NOT what the majority of Lincoln wants or stands for.

If anything our police department needs MORE support than ever. Lincoln stands with our police department 100%.

When making future decisions regarding our safety and security, please remember we need to give the ones that protect us all of the support they need and desire.

Thank you.

Jessica Shiffermiller
Sent from my IPhone
To Whom It May Concern:

Please do not defund the Lincoln Police Department. Every encounter my family has had with them has been very positive. The officers are extremely professional, kind, and helpful. Any “defunding” would be a mistake and detrimental to the hard work the Lincoln PD has done. Families feels safe in Lincoln - let’s keep it that way.

Thank you for your time and consideration regarding this important public safety issue.

Regards,
Jeff Tarzian
Lincoln, NE
Dear Lincoln City Council,

I believe that "defunding" the Lincoln Police Department would be a grave mistake. I can't imagine what would happen to our city if this was to occur. There are bad people in all walks of life. The mistakes of a few should not determine the fate of the majority. I have been very impressed with any interaction I have had with the LPD. They have shown professionalism, kindness and respect. Please continue to keep our streets safe!

Thank you!

--

Betsy Andersen
402-937-3620
COUNCIL- PLEASE ME AND MY FAMILY FIRMLY SUPPORT LINCOLN CITY POLICE. WITH OUT POLICE PROTECTION THIS CITY BE A LAWLESS CITY- ELDON R. PAYNE, 20551 SPRING MEADOW CT.
Hello,

I wanted to take the time to write and beg you to not pull funding from our police force. I know what they make and how behind some of our resources are scientifically and tech wise. I believe if you want higher quality services for a community then you have to utilize resources for that service. Lincoln is growing and diversifying and for LPD to understand the growing needs they will need funding to train and diversify as well. I have worked in social services in Lincoln it is a horribly broken system that would need rebuilt from the ground up and are in NO way prepared to serve our community in a greater capacity as they are truly already failing at their own services they are tasked to provide. Lincoln does not belong in the same category with the communities of complete destruction. We are not so divided and full of division and rage that we should follow suit in the paths of the truly divided and broken communities. We can heal, we can come together and we are full of heart, if you punish those tasked with protecting us, for another communities crime I don’t see a way beach from that. You will lose those in this community that have always felt safe in our big little town and they will find an actual little town. I send prayers for your truly difficult role.

Thank You,
Heidi Francisco

Sent from my iPhone
I am supporting our LPD all the way!!!! Not only LPD but ALL law enforcement officers of Nebraska. When you really look at ANY PROFESSION there is always a bad apple in the cart, unfortunately!!!!. Lincoln Police do an outstanding job and have my respect!!!! Yes, maybe there needs to be changes within LPD but to defund the police department is unnecessary!!!!

Sincerely,
Melody M. Evans
To the Lincoln City Council members:

I cannot believe I even have to contact you to say that I, a longtime Lincoln resident, want you to keep funding our police force.

Of course we need a fully-funded, vibrant police force to protect and serve our diverse community.

Watching any news channel will fully inform us of the increase of violence and crime in cities around our country as they experiment with decreasing or defunding their police forces.

Let's not make the same mistake.

Please maintain the common sense of our city by ignoring any request to change the funding for our police force.

Sincerely,

Liz Davids
4000 Ballard Circle
402-326-5636
I’m writing to say please do not defund our police. We have a wonderful police department and they work for all of us.

I am a long life resident of Lincoln, Nebraska, I love the city so much o never left.

Thank you,
Carie Wilbur
Sent from my iPhone
Dear council members.
Never in my life did I think I would have to write this letter. What on earth has happened to this community. When I lived here in the 70’s I thought this was one of the best cities in the country. But since moving back here in 2005 the drugs, crime, vandalism, and other forms of violence against people and property has increased. I guess it was only a matter of time before the big cities on either coast influenced the folks here.
When I was growing up in western Nebraska there was a saying that was prevalent. When having guns is outlawed only outlaws will have guns. I do not want to carry a gun. Nor does my husband or other family members. That is why we support our police force. That’s what they are trained to do.
We want and need to feel safe in our community. If the police force would be defunded, there is no way I would shop or attend an activity or go to a restaurant downtown. I think there are a lot of folks who would agree with me on that.
Please do not defund the police.
Gregg and Peggy Thuman
925 Mulder Drive
Lincoln Nebraska
4025259150

Family. Where Life Begins, Love Never Ends
June 23, 2020

To the Lincoln City Council members:

I am contacting you to ask that you hear me and the many voices of the people of Lincoln that support the police force and request that you continue to fund them. We desperately need a fully funded, supported, and well-trained police force to protect and serve our entire community. The police force provides a vital role in our community and the men and women who sacrifice their lives and safety for the good of their city deserve our full support and funding. I know several of those that serve, and it would be a significant tragedy to cut the legs out from under them and the important work they do by taking away their funding. I’ve worked to teach my children about the amazing people that serve this community that deserve our support and respect, and the police force is among those. With all the unrest and issues that have come up recently, we now more than ever need help in reminding people of common sense, peaceable assembly, and boundaries of law to keep everyone safe. Please don’t make the same mistakes other cities have made. Keep our city safe, fair, and protected.

Sincerely,

Nichole Ball

Nichole Ball

5110 S 54th St

Lincoln, NE 68516
To the Lincoln City Council members:

I, a longtime Lincoln resident, implore you to consider your decision to defund our police force.

We need a fully funded police force to protect the citizens, all citizens, of our community. I was walking in my neighborhood just today thinking how grateful I am that there is someone I can call if I need help.

Watching the national news, seeing that there are communities who actually think this is a good idea, scares me for my community. Don't follow the path that seems like the wave of the future; It isn't. Not having a fully funded police force will NOT stop those who don't follow laws as it is. It will encourage them.

Please keep our city protected by funding those who serve to protect us.

Sincerely,
Sherri Erickson
2920 Prairie Rd
Lincoln, NE 68506
402-890-2732
I am opposed to defunding the police department in our community. The LPD is essential and more funds should be given in order to ensure extensive training is available.

Lori Akers
The thought of defunding the Lincoln Police Department is unimaginable! May those who support such an act stop to consider the ramifications for the safety and well being of all Lincoln citizens. Our support and gratitude for the performance of our Lincoln police officers is unwavering! Kathy and Roger Ripley

Sent from my iPad
As a family we are totally against defunding the police. If you choose to go that route... We will no longer be in Lincoln shopping or spending our hard earned money. We cannot support a city that doesn’t feel we need protection from our Police Department. I have a nephew who is a policeman. He deserves to be backed by The citizens of this great state. And by all of our government leaders. We cannot afford to lose these men and women fighting for our society. Do not defund the police.

Thank you.

Dione Nelson
Mead, Ne
Honorable Members of the Lincoln City Council:

I was born in Lincoln, NE and have lived and worked in Lincoln for approximately 60 years.

I would like to take the time to express my sincere gratitude for the service of the officers of the Lincoln Police Department. This group of law enforcement officers consists of professional and respectful individuals who show selfless dedication to protecting Lincoln’s citizens.

Every day these officers put their ‘lives on the line’ for all of us regardless of what they may encounter during their shift. I am proud to say that I feel safe living in Lincoln and I pray that all members of LPD will continue to want to serve our community so that we may remain secure in our homes and neighborhoods.

I respectfully request that you disregard the notion that defunding the police department is a viable solution to the events that have occurred recently in Lincoln.

In closing, I want to say a big THANK YOU to LPD. May you all remain safe during times of danger or risk and return home from duty, unharmed, to your families at the end of your day.

Sincerely,

Debra Pester
Lincoln, NE
Lincoln City Council,

I urge you to protect the city by dropping insane demands for the defunding or disbandment of the Lincoln Police Department. Law and order is our only way toward understanding and a peaceful society.

If the Lincoln police force is unable to maintain its role in managing public safety, the streets will become chaos and many lives will be impacted.

Council members, please think with clarity. If the police are not able to protect the citizens of Lincoln how will we live in peace. We will be forced to protect ourselves. I doubt that will bring the harmony that some believe will come from dismantling our already small yet very effective police department.

I want to be clear. I support our police. As a peaceful, non-destructive citizen I expect the police presence to act as an effective deterrent and a legal mode of restraint against those who would destroy our community with violence, fire, looting, and hate.

Justin Reed
4111 N 44th ST
4023256346
I believe is highly important we support our police. We need them to protect us.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
IF SOME ONE IS TRYING TO BREAK IN MY HOUSE I WANT TO CALL A RESPONSIBLE POLICEMAN, NOT A SOCIAL WORKER. --- ELDON PAYNE, 2051 SPRING MEADOW COURT
I wanted to send a quick note in support of fully funding police departments. They are an essential part of our democracy. Thank you.
I support FUNDING the police and support the police. I want to (and will) live in city that properly funds our police force.

Madea Berney

Sent from my iPhone
I would like to voice my support for the Lincoln Police Department. I feel that an unbelievable burden has been laid upon their shoulders recently and they have handled it better than we could have asked.

We need to provide them with the support, equipment, and training they need to handle what is happening in this city.

I went downtown the morning after the riots and was devastated. I felt similar after 9/11, like my community had been terrorized. I did not feel safe in my city after this violence occurred. “Defunding the police” is not the answer to the violence that is occurring. I honestly have been disappointed with the leadership of our city during all of this. I am asking you to support our police officers and the law abiding citizens of Lincoln.

Fara Adams
I support the Lincoln Police. They risk their lives every day to protect us all. We all need to -Defend -them... DO NOT DEFUND THEM
I am a retired teacher and have worked numerous times directly with the police. They work tirelessly at making our city and citizens safe and need all the resources to continue to maintain the law and order in the city.
I feel it is important to keep the budget and enhance their training.
I watched how our police were taunted and admire how much restraint they have.

Someone needs to have some common sense and step up to the plate to make the right decision and not Defund the police.

Please do not DEFUND the POLICE

Thank you
We all need to support our Police Department! This includes the mayor and city council.

When did people breaking the law and criminals start getting more respect and support from our politicians than the police who risk their lives everyday for us!

Criminals don't follow the rules and you are asking our police officers to do their job with their hands tied behind their back. Where is the justice in that?? Don't criticize them support them. They put there lives on the line everyday to keep us safe.

Respectably,
S. Fisher
I am writing to share my concern with what I've heard about requests to defund the police in Lincoln. I have lived here nearly 50 years and was disappointed to learn that more than 100 emails had been sent to the city council requesting defunding. Problems to that extent sound out of character for our city, so I wanted to see what I could find in articles or other information online. I came across a website for ACLU Nebraska with an executive summary for a survey they conducted in 2014 regarding the civilian complaint process for several law enforcement agencies in the state. They conducted a follow-up survey in 2016. The article is dated August 21, 2016. According to ACLU Nebraska, "Clear, accessible and welcoming complaint processes will build trust between the community and law enforcement and permit leadership to identify problems before they arise. With adoption of best practices, Nebraska law enforcement can ensure their good work is appreciated and understood by the public."

The report included best practices recommended from the US Department of Justice such as making police more approachable, listening to community concerns, having open lines of communication and focusing on relationships with communities of color.

The Lincoln Police Department was included in the survey and according to ACLU Nebraska, "Lincoln Police Department earned the highest praise in our 2014 report, and they remain one of the most accessible and welcoming civilian complaint processes in the state. LPD deserves particular commendation for making their forms available in Arabic and Vietnamese as well."

I am confident in our police department and do not think defunding is the answer to continued improvement. Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Anne Sumner
I am outraged at the double standards that are being dealt from our so called leaders. The fact this has to even be stated. We are lucky and blessed to have our police department, and a great chief. The fact that either are at risk is absolutely assanine. LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE OF LINCOLN! The law abiding, hard working people, not the few that seem to want to have the run of the city to damage what they want and everyone at their feet.

Sent from my iPhone
Terrible idea. You can see what’s happening in the Chaz, Chop whatever in Seattle. This isn’t about George Floyd anymore but the over turn of our justice system. Please do not give in to the pressure that will only hurt the poor & minorities in our community!

Sent from my iPad
I live in council member Raybould’s district (West Van Dorn).
I support our law enforcement. The defund police movement is antithetical to sustaining a healthy community, economy and quality of life.

--
David Kohrell
Council Members,

I am writing this email to voice my opposition to defunding or eliminating the Lincoln Police Department. Our law enforcement is something which we easily take for granted, but without law enforcement, nothing good will come of it for our society. The recent breakdown of the "CHAZ" or "CHOP" zone in Seattle, in the absence of the police, has shown what will quickly happen if there is no law enforcement personnel present.

I understand your critically important position as City Council members requires you to be open to all critiques in public policy, weigh the merits, and vote based on your knowledge and conscience. While there may be some policy considerations (such as moving funding from attaining military-grade equipment to other uses in law enforcement, how investigations of police misconduct are handled, etc.) you have to consider, it is a moral imperative to reject all ideas which would bring about no good to our community (such as removing resource officers from the schools, defunding or eliminating the police, etc.)

Please oppose defunding or eliminating the police.

Respectfully,

Mitchell Clark
1919 S 34th St
Lincoln, NE 68506
To the city council,
I would like you to know I support our police department and request that they are in no way defunded! Our police department is of the highest quality from the top of the ranks down! Please do not defund the police department!
Thank you
Linda Dewey
Sent from my iPad
Hello council members, I am Esther Oborny, a long time Lincoln resident who wants to keep funding our police force. They have helped me in the pasted and I want to count on them now. They are kind and let's stop telling people there not. Respect them and their job. Thank you for your time and praying for you all. KEEP the POLICE FORCE

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

I understand change needs to happen, but if we defund the police - we have no one to protect people who are decent members of society who don’t rape, rob and kill people. It’s not fair to not even be concerned about not protecting the majority of us who just want to live our lives as safely as possible. This needs to be thought through logically, if we have no police...we have no law...if we have no law we have no order. If there is no order there is just chaos.

From 2017 to 2020 there has been zero deaths by cops in Lincoln, LPD Is doing a good job.

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

If you bow to radical lefts ridiculous requests for defunding police you are going to ruin our city. In my 72 years on this earth I’ve never shot a gun but am considering buying one legally and taking gun safety classes. For my protection. I’m truly frightened to know that you would consider getting rid of police only leaving these crazy rioters on the streets creating havoc and controlling our society. You must know we are frightened of how things are these days and MLK is rolling over in his grave at what this had turned into. There is no “peace” in what they are asking for. And cities that have already done it are paying the price for it. (Detroit for one). Please don’t give in.
Mary Jarecke.

Sent from my iPhone
Definitely not. I don’t feel completely safe the way it is. I work in healthcare and we are in dire need of our officers in fact they should have more funding and training.

Sent from my iPhone
Lincoln City Council,

I would like to voice my opposition in defunding the Lincoln City Police Force. I am in full support of the Lincoln Police force and I believe it is incredibly important to maintain law and order in our city. I truly believe that there is a way to find common ground between those that want to defund the police force and those that support the police force. We all have to work together and not against each other.

Please submit my email for public record.

Thank you! Sincerely,
Kylene Planer
Lincoln Resident
I support our Lincoln Police department, and am totally against defunding of any kind.
I am a tax paying citizen here in Lincoln and it is time this city supports our Police Department. If we don’t our city will be like the 3rd world countries with Militia taking over. This is a free country that is why I live here. The police department has saved many lives and have been here not only for me but for many of those that protested. Yes they need more training in relations, racism and tactics but if it were not for the Police we would have more crime. This Police department deserves to be supported and funded. I am disappointed what the Mayor said about not understanding what a curfew meant. She is an adult and our Mayor and if she did not know maybe she should have looked it up in a Dictionary. I feel the curfew was not for the protestors but for the citizens of this city that follow the rules like myself.
Jan Kujath
tax payer and law abiding citizen
Hello,

I wanted to send a quick note to tell you that I support police funding. I appreciate you guys during this tough time.

TJ
I write to urge you to not defund our Lincoln Police Department. They perform vital services to our community in a professional, caring matter. Please give them your full support as their role in Lincoln is vital to the safe environment we all want and deserve.

Thank you for your consideration.

Diane Hilger
2501 Devoe Dr.
Lincoln, NE
I am adamantly opposed for defunding our police force. They do an excellent job of creating positive relationships in our community and have a history that proves it.

By defunding the police you would be putting our city at risk for an increase of violence and danger. We do not want that. Why would you even think of doing that?

Our police officers are worthy of our support.

Tax payer and citizen of Lincoln,

Shane Kennett
Sent from my iPhone
To whom it may concern,

I am 71 years old and a very pro-American. I am writing to say I am against defunding our Police Department. We need their help and protection in every way! When they leave for work each day, their families tell them goodbye and pray they will return home each day! Without them, America will be lost and anarchy will come forth to our city!

God, please protect them and bring peace and reason back to our world.

Thank you and be safe, P. Kidwell

Sent from my iPhone
I’m a 43 year old native Lincoln resident. I’m writing in support of our Lincoln Police Department. Like the rest of the country I’m very concerned about the state of affairs over the last few months. But defunding our police isn’t the answer, especially not here in Lincoln. They are hardworking men and women who deserve respect as much as anyone else. I hope you will keep this in mind in your decision making on City Council.

Thank you,
Molly Davenport
8820 Chaparral Ct.
Lincoln, NE 68520
402-610-3710
I am writing to voice my support for our Lincoln Police Department. I am grateful for them and we need them!
Aimee Nebel

Sent from my iPhone
News4Patriots eAlert

Police Officers Become Known for All the Right Reasons

In sports, they say the best referees and umpires are the ones you don't notice. If they consistently make the right calls, nobody knows their names.

The same might be said of police officers. Many can go years with few citizens knowing their names. All because they do their duties well and are fortunate enough to avoid controversy.

Some cops do get national recognition, however. Some for the right reasons and others for the wrong reasons.

Today I'd like to share with you some stories of law enforcement officers who have become known for their heroics and kind deeds.

CPR Rescues Infant's Life

There is nothing scarier for a parent than seeing their child suffering and not knowing what to do about it.
This has happened many times, of course. But sometimes a cop is able to step in and help the child.

In South Carolina, Deputy William Kimbro was making a routine traffic stop in June 2019 when a woman in the car drew his attention to her choking baby daughter.

Kimbro performed CPR to rescue the infant's life. A year later, the mother asked Kimbro and his wife to be the child's godparents. They readily agreed.

**Cop Dislodges Coin in Time**

Deputy Cameron Kinsey was monitoring a recent protest in Palmdale, California, north of Los Angeles.

He was flagged down by a woman in a parking lot. She pointed him to another woman carrying a limp, 11-month-old boy.

The child had swallowed a small coin and stopped breathing. Kinsey used a finger to dislodge the object from the baby's throat and turn the coin sideways to allow air to get through.

"Mom did the right thing," Kinsey said. "She was quick thinking and started patting him on the back. I ran over and grabbed the baby. At that point, training just took over."

**Daring Maneuver Rescues Twins**

After a car drove off a bridge in San Diego and landed upside down in the Pacific Ocean, officers knew they had little time to rescue the occupants.

K9 Officer Jonathan Wiese scaled 30 feet down the side of a cliff. He then used his water training to rescue twin 2-year-old sisters.

"I didn't do the job to be liked every day," Wiese said. "I didn't do it to become rich. I did it because I want to be out there making a difference and helping people."

Last year, Wiese received Officer of the Year honors for arresting the gunman who opened fire in a synagogue north of San Diego.

**Dipping Into Their Own Wallets**
Deputy Michael Cessare of the Allegany Sheriff's Office in Maryland was on routine patrol earlier this month. He noticed a young boy struggling to carry his bicycle in 90-degree heat.

After stopping and discovering the bike could not be repaired, he gave the child and his bike a ride home in the squad car.

A few hours later, Cessare returned to the boy's home. There he presented the child with a new bike he'd gotten with his own funds.

In Jacksonville, Florida, officer Terrance Hightower did something similar. He saw a man having problems with his broken bicycle. Hightower took the man to a local sporting goods store and got two new bike tires for him.

### Bringing New Meaning to Hope

Responding to a possible theft at an Albuquerque, New Mexico convenience store, police officer Ryan Holets noticed movement in a nearby grassy area.

A pregnant woman was about to inject her male companion with an illegal substance.

During the arrest process, the homeless woman told Holets how much she wanted her unborn child to have a stable home. Several months later, Holets and his wife adopted the woman's baby girl and named her Hope.

Sergeant Jim Edison said, "(Holets) wasn't just taking a call. He was changing everybody's life around him. It's so unselfish. I was just humbled."

### Long Arm of the Law

Sometimes cops prove to be a big help to citizens just by thinking on their feet. Such as Seattle officer Eric Michl.

He was able to retrieve a purse for a woman despite it being miles away. The woman had just been dropped off at home by a rideshare driver when she realized she'd left the purse in his car.

She reached the driver on her phone, but he refused to return her property. At least until Michl got involved.
The officer took a selfie in full uniform and sent it via text to the driver. His message made it clear the driver would be arrested if he did not return the purse. The driver quickly got the woman's purse back to her.

**Uphill Climb to Shade**

In Rock Island, Illinois, a police officer went the extra mile for a citizen to make her comfortable.

An elderly woman was sitting in her wheelchair by the side of the road. Officer Tyson Nichols stopped to help.

He learned her electric wheelchair had broken down. So, he contacted a local bus company to arrange to have her picked up.

Realizing she'd have to wait in the heat, he then pushed her up a steep hill to a shady spot. His action was noticed by a passerby, who posted it to social media.

Positive stories have a tough time competing with negative ones in the news. But they deserve some headlines too.

To your survival,

Robert Boyd
Managing Editor, News4Patriots

P.S. If you would like to leave a comment, head on over to Patriot Headquarters and let us know your thoughts. We'd love to hear from you.
Dear City Council,
I am writing to voice my support for the Lincoln Police Department. Please keep Lincoln safe and keep the LPD funded.
Thankyou,
Elly Fugleberg
402-890-1849

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

What would we do without them?

Most every organization has dishonest, hurtful people in their Departments. Then there are the majority who really care, who really strive to live their Profession to the max. Our Police do this well, I believe.

In my 40 years as a middle school/ high school teacher/counselor in LPS, I sometimes had to contact an Officer to come to my office about something a student/parent/teacher shared with me. Only once in all those years did I stand up and say to the Officer, “Let’s go into the hall.” I dismissed him and called to asked for a female; the student needed a compassionate heart, not a judging heart. Most male Officers are caring and compassionate; that particular one, seemed to me, needed counseling himself. His reaction to my student and to me was less than stellar.

Please continue to support and provide training so our Officers can show excellence on the job. We need an excellent Police Department. I believe our LPD Officers are. May their selfless work continue, we our blessing, yours and mine.

Maryann Boumann
Hello,
Just a short note in support for funding for our awesome police and all they do to keep us safe!

Sincerely,

Mary E Doher

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

Just a note of support for the amazing women and men that make up our LPD! We are grateful for their service to our community!

Sent from my iPhone
Dear City Council Members of Lincoln,

Please accept this letter on behalf of my entire family as we have spent hours in discussion of the topic of police reform. The issue at hand is only of accountability, not reform. Police officers, like any other profession thrust into the spotlight at any given point in our culture, are susceptible to "bad apples" in their ranks. What happened in Minneapolis is tragic, and I am sure the fellow officers of those involved in Minneapolis know that the actions weren't warranted and there should be consequences.

However, using this as a tool to force a review of every police department in the United States, and especially the department in Lincoln, is not warranted. The men and women who serve in uniform in Lincoln are already led by competent and highly qualified individuals. There is no systemic racism, unnecessary use of force, or other issues in this department as a whole. There may be an occasional complaint filed against a particular officer(s) but I trust those are thoroughly investigated and consequences are rendered related to the infraction or policy violations.

This police force has been out in our community, already doing community policing, as this has been a transformational effort in Lincoln, across Nebraska, and across our nation for years now. The appalling action of demonstrators throwing, yelling and taunting police officers should be the focus of your efforts. Otherwise, put on a uniform, swear the oath and get out there and protect your city. If you are not willing to walk in those brave officers' shoes during the days of violent and horrific behavior by protestors in our city, then I suggest you get out of your elected office and make way for those who will.

As a citizen of this town who believes in the absolute resolve of law enforcement to do good, please leave the police to their work and continue to focus on issues that are so much more important, not those issues forced down our throats by other cities and national pressure. Thank you for doing the right thing!

Respectfully,

--

Jeremy A Beck
8227 Eastwood Drive
Lincoln, NE 68506
Hello, Lincoln City Council,

I would just like to say that I am in full support of the Lincoln Police Department and am a grateful citizen for all their work and protection. I am against the defunding of LPD.

Thank you so much for your time,
Tessa Contreras
Dear Council,

I’m writing a note to share how blessed we are with our police force in Lincoln Nebraska. We have outstanding individuals who care about our community. There are many people who would agree with me and I wish everyone could send you a note in favor of our local police. I have known many police officers and currently do as well and they are caring individuals who have a challenging job. How many of you would want to be in their place protecting our city?

Please support our police officers. I’m attaching an editorial article a friend wrote about her husband who is an officer here in Lincoln. I think it speaks loudly on my view as well.

Thank you!
Teresa Raun
There are good officers out there

My husband has more integrity than anyone I’ve ever met. For example, he contacted a business who forgot to send us a bill, is meticulous about reporting our taxes and rarely beats me at poker because he simply can’t lie.

He also can’t resist doing the right thing. He once saw a gasoline-drenched person attempt to light himself on fire and pulled him out of a moving car to safety. He’s found runaway children. He’s performed CPR for 15 minutes before help arrived. He has gone to houses with neglected children living in dog feces and held those little ones, sang “Baby Shark” and tied their shoes. He often comes home from work with a heavy heart.

My husband has had heart-to-heart talks with drug users and has convinced some to seek help and others to be better parents. One man sought him out after getting clean to thank him for his encouragement. He tells me that when he enters a nursing home, he stops to chat with residents.
Sent from my iPhone
Hi there.

It is absurd to take police officers out of LPS schools. They must remain within the schools in order to keep our students safe. My brother is the officer at Lincoln Northeast high school. It is not an option to remove an officer from that school. The teachers and staff need their help daily.

Thank you.
Alison Thelen

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

Please do not de-fund the police dept. We need them and appreciate their work!
Kaela Stamper
[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

We appreciate your hard work and service. Please continue supporting our police officers!! Defunding is the wrong decision!!
Carolyn May

Sent from my iPhone
From: Mary Sand <mjarysand@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 12:13 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police Officers

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

Please keep our brave and good Police Officers funded! They need our support, not criticism. Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone
Angela M. Birkett

From: Susan Krick <suskrick@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 12:21 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support of the LPD

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

I support our LINCOLN police force. We need the LPD to protect our community and provide us order and security.
Thank you to our LPD.
Susan Krick
Lincoln Resident

Sent from my iPhone
I just wanted to give my support for our police here in Lincoln. I've heard there are some loud and angry voices trying to get rid of our police. I think this is a recipe for disaster not only for our city, but for the country. I don't think these angry individuals have the best interest of Americans at heart. I know you are a public servant for that reason--because you have our best interest at heart. Thank you.

Larissa Nordhus-Martin
A quick note of thanks for Lincoln's Police Officers whom, in my opinion, overall are doing an excellent, excellent job! They have a very difficult job, especially in this time in history. I am very grateful to know they are protecting our cit, and doing their best to maintain peace! "Hats Off" to each of them as they keep their calm and do their job!!! Thanks. Dianne Reznicek
[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please please give needed funding to increase our police system!!!!!
SUPPORT LPD!

It is Your job to protect and grow Lincoln to keep people living here!
Thank you!
Becky
If you care about Black Lives Matter and care about Black people being targeted and killed by violence and discrimination, work to defund Planned Parenthood which kills many more black lives each year than violent crime, AIDS, cancer, and heart disease and certainly by police brutality.

That would be a better use of your time and money, do you disagree?

I care about Black Lives and because I do, we need to keep the law and civility of our city intact.

Keep the police department funded.

Erin Hammond
3911 J Street
Lincoln, NE 68510
I am a taxpayer and I want to keep LPD Funded.

Carleen Barger
Don't let an emotional tide replace reason. Implement reforms and safeguards as needed, but don't lose all reason and sensibility by doing something reactionary.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
I want to lend my voice to the support of LPD and other law enforcement. Any defunding would certainly lead to a disruption of Lincoln (as witnessed earlier by the inability of them to perform their job during the "protest"). Sending in non-trained and prepared people into volatile situations for which they have no way to defend the public or themselves. What is being asked by some is not in the best interests of our city, county or country.

Steve Lindgren
I totally support Lincoln’s Police Force. I’ve only encountered kind & compassionate officers. I was an ER/Life Flight RB BSN MSN. Unfortunately I’ve dealt in some very uncomfortable situations & EVERY member acted very professionally. Many situations I have no idea how they kept their composure. Deadly force has never been used in Lincoln. Defunding police would be a huge mistake. Who do you call where someone is attacking you, robbing a bank, terrible MVA, etc? Lincoln doesn’t have enough officers per capital & lowest in all states. Our mayor ordered a curfew but then wouldn’t let them do their job. There’s only been several citizens killed in 50 years & who is punished to do their job? Police. The idiot BLM protestor are ignorant, loud & wont listen. I don’t have a racist bone in my body nor do my friends or family but the protesters are against whites. In Lincoln protestor’s were paid from al over the country to protest. How stupid is that? I know 3 officers injured & will be off for a long time may not ever return. Are there ‘bad’ cops? Of course, as are physicians, teachers, nurses, in all professions. Let’s not prosecute the great ones or take away from them. The entire BLM is absinthe this country. And burn down businesses break out car & home windows. Paint police cars. Peaceful protests are fine I’ve marched in several. Take heed.

Thank you for listening,
SueAnn Schwabauer

Feel free to contact me
402-429-5522. Best to text
I wrote to this address from the heart but no send button. Hit arrow didn’t make it. Please tell me how to send. I back LPD 100%. DON’T defund them a penny instead add more officers & increase budget Thank you, SueAnn Schwabauer
Please call or text me at 402-429-5522
Lincoln City Council,

I am a Lancaster County, city of Lincoln resident and I want to express my full support of our local and county law enforcement agencies. I am opposed to any defunding of any law enforcement agencies. Tax payers deserve proper protection in our community and I have faith in our police, sheriffs, and state patrol officers. Please do the right thing for the people of Lincoln and avoid this notion of defunding our law enforcement. Please contact me with questions.

Thank you,

Melanie Cassidy
Lincoln, NE

Sent from my iPad
From: Megan Dolton <megandolton@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 1:09 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Pro-Police

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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

Thank you for your dedication and daily service to protecting our families and communities. We support the police and their supporting departments.

Continued prayers.

Megan Dolton

Sent from my iPhone
Angela M. Birkett

From: Annette Wemhoff <ajwemhoff@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 1:09 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support:Police

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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

I wholeheartedly support the Lincoln Police. I appreciate how they keep the city safe and prosperous.

Annette J Wemhoff
To whom it may concern,

I write this email with a heavy heart. I have heard that many in our city are trying to defund our police force?!!!

I am so grateful for their strong presence in our city of Lincoln. They daily put their life on the line to protect us & without them, there would be lawless chaos & disorder. We NEED them!

I urge you to continue to support them in order to continue to make our city the great community that it is!

Thank you
Patricia Drozda
(Proud Lincoln resident of 50 Years)

Sent from my iPhone
I am writing about defunding the police department. As a black women who lives in Lincoln, Ne I CANNOT and will NOT support defunding the police department. I agree think that the city needs to find ways to educate the police department.

1. They need more training in non lethal tactics and they need it more then once a month. Nobody would be proficient in something that they only did once a month.
2. The Police need access to more non lethal deterrents. These items maybe something that does not even exist yet, Police need something that can be used on an individual and something different that can be used in large groups.
3. Police need help in identifying any biases or forms of PTSD they may have developed from being in their chosen line of work. Every person that lives in Lincoln has formed biases based on the area of town they are in ie: someone being more comfortable going for a run in one part of town vs another. Why would we assume that Police Officers would not have also formed these biases.
4. Access to more psychological help when mental health is in question.
5. A way to tract those officers that have complaints in order to weed out those that have unwanted traits that may lead to problems in the future.

All of the items I have listed are areas that need more investment and not less. The idea of taking from the Police and asking them to give more is ridiculous. If this is the road you want to go down eventually nobody will want to be an officer.

Thank You,
Natasha Kusek
6841 Walker Ave
Lincoln, Ne 68507
402.310.6059

Sent from Mail for Windows 10
I'd like to share my support of the police department. We will endanger the vast majority of the public without the funding of a police department. We need them and the things they support.

Carol Brettmann

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
I am writing about defunding the police department. As a black women who lives in Lincoln, Ne I CANNOT and will NOT support defunding the police department. I agree think that the city needs to find ways to educate the police department.

1. They need more training in non lethal tactics and they need it more then once a month. Nobody would be proficient in something that they only did once a month.
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3. Police need help in identifying any biases or forms of PTSD they may have developed from being in their chosen line of work. Every person that lives in Lincoln has formed biases based on the area of town they are in ie: someone being more comfortable going for a run in one part of town vs another. Why would we assume that Police Officers would not have also formed these biases.
4. Access to more psychological help when mental health is in question.
5. A way to tract those officers that have complaints in order to weed out those that have unwanted traits that may lead to problems in the future.

All of the items I have listed are areas that need more investment and not less. The idea of taking from the Police and asking them to give more is ridiculous. If this is the road you want to go down eventually nobody will want to be an officer.

Thank You,
Natasha Kusek
6841 Walker Ave
Lincoln, Ne 68507
402.310.6059

Sent from Mail for Windows 10
I just wanted to write a note in support and gratitude of our policemen and women. As citizens of Lincoln, our family is grateful for their service and protection and we support our police force.

Thank you.

Sara Gubbels
Dear City Council,
A strong police force is vital to keeping Lincoln a great City to live. Please support them 100%!!! Thank you! Deb Cabela

Sent from my iPhone
Dear Lincoln City Council, I am writing in support of our Lincoln Police Department. I am troubled regarding the unfortunate, loud and unfounded voices within our great community to defund, ridicule and generally bust the morale of our police force. Lest we forget it wasn’t that long ago that the public was screaming for safe schools and thus the addition of resource officers. Please do not go backwards on that! Use the federal funding to add the 5 officers. Also, the city budget has included the 5 additional officers. Please do not go back on that either. We must have the necessary resources to maintain a safe community.

This community has a fantastic police force that may not be perfect in every way but I believe they go to their job everyday with the intention to provide a safe environment for us all in the Lincoln community. Can things improve? Absolutely but that improvement must occur in many more areas than LPD. The public must not display the hatred and violence that generates the need for our police to act toward the safety of its citizens. Peaceful protests are the right approach toward action and improvement. Violence should and will bring appropriate force to maintain safety and order. There is no reason for millions of dollars of destruction in the community of Lincoln.

Sincerely your Lincoln resident,
Dean VanLoon

Sent from my iPad
Dear City Council,
Please keep our Lincoln Police Department funded!!
The good men and women of our police department risk their lives everyday and they help to keep us safe. Vote to keep our Police department funded!!
Thank you,

Dan and Cheryl Wesolowski
residents of Lincoln
Hello!

My name is Cynthia, and I am a concerned citizen concerning the push to defund the Lincoln Police Department. I have nothing eloquent to say; nothing that sounds intelligent or noteworthy. But I do know the conversations I've had with fellow Nebraskans. I do know the things I've read and the chaos I see all around us. To defund the very program that is meant to serve and protect its citizens is absolutely mind-boggling.

I know what some will say - that not all citizens have been protected. That is unfortunate if true in this city. If there needs to be reform, let's do that. If some need to be fired or jobs changed, maybe that is the next step. But defunding? Most people I know are terrified of this happening. Please hear us when we plead: this doesn't have to be the way we do things here. There are a majority of people who support the end to racism...but not this. We appreciate and support the police force (and its funding) too.

Please.

Thank you for your time,

Cynthia S.
Hello,

It has been brought to my attention that there are a lot of people pushing to defund the police department. I don’t know if this is actually true but I was given this email and told to voice my opinion. I feel like I speak on 90% of Lincoln that what happened to George Floyd was wrong and that that police officer should be held accountable. The one thing that has always been great about Lincoln is that it’s been one of the safest cities to live in the country. Defunding the police department I feel will put this in jeopardy and I will tell you that there are many people out there that if they see defunding of the police department will take matters into their own hands, although I am not one of them. I feel the police officers that we have in Lincoln are great and although they are far from perfect, they are sorely needed right now. Defunding of the police department and all the good that they do for women who are abused, children who are abused and all the things that people don’t think about would be devastating. I’ll tell you what you do, you put this on the next ballot about defunding the funding the police department and you’ll see what Lincoln says and I guarantee you nobody wants that to happen.

Regards
Nick Vuko
402-416-9957
Sent from my iPhone
Please do NOT even consider defunding the police. We need them!

Eric Fugleberg
402-770-5157
Good afternoon!
I am writing this to inform you of my full support of LPD. I believe the entire department is made up of loyal, honest, dependable, hard working, men and women who truly want to serve and protect EVERYONE in Lincoln!

I also believe, and want to respectfully request/insist/demand, that LPD be FULLY FUNDED!! Anything less than full funding is ludicrous and illogical.

The current demands for defunding of police departments cannot, and must not, be honored, approved, or written into law. I know whomever is reading this is a competent, intelligent person; therefore, I will not go into the serious, negative ramifications if LPD is defunded. You already know what will happen.

Please show your full support and work your hardest to fully fund our hardworking and dedicated Lincoln Police Department.

They deserve your respect. They deserve the Council's and Mayor's respect. They deserve the respect of us all.

Thank you.
We love our police officers. They do such an amazing job keeping Lincoln safe. Do not defund LPD.

Thank you,
Paul and Colleen Warner

Sent from my iPhone
I completely support our Lincoln Police Officers and am very against defunding the police department for the following reasons.

1. These men and women have devoted their lives to defending our citizens and protecting our rights. They are educated and trained to maintain law and order in our city and I think they do a wonderful job.
2. Some people are judging an entire department by the acts of a very few police across the nation and this is unfair, irresponsible and putting our entire city at risk.
3. Who will answer the call when a shooter enters a school or business? A social worker would have no part of this and I am certain this person would also not want to enter a domestic violence situation and be confronted by a weapon and a raging husband or wife. That is not in their job description - just ask them. Police across the nation know that domestic violence calls are some of the most dangerous and many police officers are killed during these calls each year. My son-in-law's cousin was killed during one of these calls and I am proud to say that my son-in-law still decided to enter police work because he knew the importance of public safety. He has risked his life several times for the good of his city, where he works in a predominantly black suburb just outside of Minneapolis.
4. Who will answer the call when our small family owned business is robbed in the night? We have worked hard to establish BiON Skincare and would like protection by our police. Will the insurance companies stop paying for theft and damage to our building if there are no police and too many files claimed?
5. Police also offer support by directing our traffic, assisting at car accidents, keeping us safe at large sports and entertainment gatherings. They also help when children are lost. There was a beautiful example of this last week when a 5yr old drowning victim's father was overcome with sorrow and the policemen who gave him the news embraced him and comforted him. The man's response was to hug him back. A black and white man encounter. Why wasn't this mentioned in the newspaper? These are good men- fathers, husbands and friends who care and that is why they wear the uniform.
6. Without police to enforce the laws and protect the city there will be destruction and killings. A fine example is when the mayor wanted the curfew enforced recently. The crowd was throwing bottles filled with gas at the police along with fireworks. Shots were reported to have been fired over their heads and into the building they were trying to defend. The "peaceful" crowd had done 10 million dollars worth of damage to a building the night before. They had every reason to try to dismantle the crowd before like events happened again. After all wasn't that the intent of the curfew? Why was the crowd surprised by tear gas and rubber bullets when they were breaking the law? The newspaper account this week was totally unfair!
I am a law abiding citizen, but all are not. That is why you would be making a terrible decision by defunding our police department.

Larry and Barbara Lockhart
Dear Members of Council Council,

I am reaching out to ask for ongoing support for the Lincoln police Department to function and protect the city of Lincoln I’ve called home for over 40 years.

I’m not even sure what the world is coming to when it could be discussed whether or not to defund the very department charged with our safety. Lincoln has always been different. The decision to move away from Phoenix, AZ before the birth of my first child was because of the safe, secure, big small town feeling here and in large measure due to our outstanding police protection.

I understand there have been actions by a few that don’t reflect the highest integrity of the LPD and there is work to be done. Let us not throw the baby out with the bathwater and abandon all reason to listen to appeals to defund the police.

As a single mother who has sought legal protection for myself and my children, I shudder to think how vulnerable I would feel dealing with those who abuse privilege in the private sector without having recourse to the police.

Please continue to keep the force funded.

Thank you for listening.

Andrea Vuko Arbie
1831 Oakdale Avenue
Lincoln, NE 68506

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

Please DoNOT defund the police. That is stupid. I steady Arrest the Anarchists.
If you defund the Police.
You have no right calling them when the anarchists burn your house, destroy your property.
Instead we all need to turn to Prayer and fight for America.
EMD

Sent from my iPhone
From: Mike Wenz <wenzmike8549@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 3:16 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: LPD

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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

DO NOT DEFUND LPD!!!!
Angela M. Birkett

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>From:</th>
<th>Georgeanne Rashilla <a href="mailto:rashilla@aol.com">rashilla@aol.com</a></th>
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<tr>
<td>Sent:</td>
<td>Wednesday, June 24, 2020 3:21 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>To:</td>
<td>Council Packet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subject:</td>
<td>Defunding the police??</td>
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[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

I truly have fallen down the rabbit hole. Watching the US news where citizens have taken control of a neighborhood in Seattle and there was a murder and multiple shootings, the gun free zone of Chicago had record shootings in one day, and my own city council is considering defunding the police?? For the first time in my 60 years I am seriously considering purchasing a firearm. If I cannot count on my elected officials not to be bullied into knee jerk reactions to a situation, I will have no choice. Does it scare you the citizenry will take matters into their own hands if they can’t count on the system? Or perhaps they have already? It should. It certainly scares the hell out of me. #nomob #nobullies #commonsense

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

I strongly support our Lincoln Police. They do an excellent job and put their lives on the line for us every day. I’m sure there is more that can be done to promote racial equity on the job, but defunding the police is not the answer! I believe in Lincoln people and our police generally treat all people with kindness and fairness. Let’s keep this up and learn from current events. But I have no idea what defunding the police means, except that it can’t be good!

Victoria Bumgarner
7300 S 64th Cir
Lincoln, Ne 68616

Sent from my iPhone
As a resident here in Lincoln for the past 20 years, I have always been impressed by the professionalism and courtesy of our police men and women. We are blessed by their heroic and selfless efforts. We should be supporting and thanking our police force NOT defunding them.

Sincerely,
Jenny Ackerman
6344 Water's Edge Dr, Lincoln, NE 68526
This week I was a victim of a vehicle theft in vicinity of the Willard Community Center by what I can only describe as children. They stole a company vehicle running in front of residence while I stood no more than 50 feet away. After finding my vehicle abandoned behind a nearby apartment complex and confronting these teens there was literally no respect of elders or authority figures, emboldened youth. Some ran and the suspect hid his face in his hood so I could not photograph him. It took at least 15 minutes for the police to respond (who knows how hamstrung they are at this time).

I learned from talking with just two people in the neighborhood that this mischief goes on all the time. Cars are getting windows busted out and vandalism is happening at this apt. I also on a previous day had to ask a similar group of children to leave a condemned building for demo for their safety. I work here and live here with a family of my own. Should I take such matters into my own hands for their safety?

Today I read that teens in this very neighborhood are involved in more vandalism and wrecked a stolen truck into a squad car. When adults act like children what then can we expect from theirs? We need more police involvement in our communities and enforcement not less. This pie in the sky response to police shouldn’t even be a serious footnote for our council. Please vote no to defund LPD. Protecting this community is your sole responsibility.

Will Stewart-Starks
1103 W Q Street
To whom it may concern

I completely disagree with defunding our police! They need our cities support now more than ever! They have kept our city safe and I can’t imagine not having them here. I totally support any extra education to combat racism in our city. Thank you,
Mikaela Kidwell
Sent from my iPhone

KIDWELL CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This e-mail and any files transmitted with it are strictly confidential and are intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient or the person responsible for delivering the e-mail to the intended recipient, be advised that you have received this e-mail in error and that any use, dissemination, forwarding, printing, or copying of this e-mail and any file attachments is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please immediately notify us by sending a reply e-mail to the sender. You must destroy the original transmission and its contents.
Lincoln City Council,

I am a Lancaster County, city of Lincoln resident and I want to express my full support of our local and county law enforcement agencies. I am opposed to any defunding of any law enforcement agencies. Tax payers deserve proper protection in our community and I have faith in our police, sheriffs, and state patrol officers. Please do the right thing for the people of Lincoln and avoid this notion of defunding our law enforcement. Please contact me with questions.

Thank you,
Anne Cassidy
Lincoln, NE
I am writing to declare my support for the Lincoln Police Department. I do not support defunding the police at this time.

Sincerely,

Mike and Paula Barry

Sent from my iPhone
I urge you to support our Lincoln Police Department. Please keep LPD funded. Their work is extremely valuable to all our citizens. Thank you, Barbara Gard.
Defunding the police is a horrible idea. In fact I believe we need to increase funding, because a strong police force presence actually deters crime. Plus police do way more than arrest people, they save lives. Our local law enforcement have:

- Pulled citizens from burning cars
- Performed CPR countless times and save many lives
- Assisted citizen who have been victims of violence
- Inventoried body parts from crash scenes or crime scenes
- Interviewed children that have been victims or witnessed horrific events
- Informed family members their loved ones have passed
- Thoroughly invested crimes to find those responsible
- Stopped millions of dollars worth of drug from getting put out on the streets
- Prevented hundred of crimes by promptly responding to 911 calls

The list is endless and out weights the horrific actions of a few horrible officers, to whom should have never been nor remained officers after the first or second major complaint.

Our community, is blessed with amazing law enforcement officers. Having had worked for Sheriff Terry Wagner for close to fifteen years, I can promise you racism and/or brutality would not be tolerated. In that same time I have known Lincoln Police Chief Jeff Bleimeister and worked for him when he was Chief Deputy at the Lancaster Sheriff’s Office, he too would never tolerate such behavior.

To truly solve racism and brutality in law enforcement you need to: Provide race relations training. Encourage minorities to become law enforcement officers. Allow more opportunities for police and the community to interact in positive environments. All which requires more officers and more funding. Not less! If you need evidence of what defunding, reducing, or eliminating law enforcement looks like... take a look at Flint MI, Los Angeles CA, Seattle WA, and New York NY. Where crime has skyrocketed even with such minor steps as just eliminating a crime task force.

Just think as a nation we lost more minority lives due to the riots and looting that was ‘allowed’ to happen in the last 3-4 weeks, than the entire year of 2019 at the hands of police.

Sincerely,

Michelle Sewell
Lincoln Resident
Hello council members:

I’m writing to let you know of my 💯 SUPPORT of our city police officers. The thought of “defunding” our police force is absolutely astounding to me. I cannot imagine a world where we do not have these brave men and women.....nor would I want to live in a City, State...or Country for that matter, that doesn’t back our blue.

I STRONGLY SUGGEST you uphold support and backing of our Lincoln police officers....after all....if I wanted to live in the Seattle chaos Id move to Seattle.

Sincerely,

Julie Dragoo
I want to voice my wholehearted support for Lincoln Police Department. I personally know two Current and one retired LPD officer and the family of a fourth. The ones I know personally are upstanding compassionate individuals as is the family of the fourth who I do not know personally. We need these officers to protect us and our communities and possessions. No matter what profession there are always those that tear down instead of build but in a small small minority. They put their lives at risk each day they show up for work. They need everyone’s support Sent from my iPhone
**From:** Sue Fosdick <sue7fosdick@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 24, 2020 4:07 PM  
**To:** Council Packet  
**Subject:** LPD  

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

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

Sent from my iPad. I believe the Lincoln Police are doing a excellent job. They have my full support. Susan C Fosdick  
6127 Glass Ridge Dr Lincoln NE 68426
Council Members,

In this time of political, personal, and civil upheaval, I hope you plan to do the right thing by our city. I'm the wife of a current LPD police officer who has been with the department for almost 10 years. We love this city and have been proud to live here for the last decade. We are originally from Memphis, TN, a large city with high levels of crime and many societal problems (which are some of the major reasons we left). My family loves living here in Lincoln, where those sort of major issues have not yet taken hold and where we are comfortable raising our family. I hope it continues to stay that way. Before you jump on board the popular national opinion bandwagon and try to take drastic measures such as defunding LPD, please consider the consequences of that. The people who will suffer the most are the citizens in our community who will NEED the police to respond in their darkest moments. In order to provide optimum support for the community, the police will NEED the training that defunding will inhibit.

Defunding the police will not stabilize our community, it will do the exact opposite. Please carefully consider your decisions over the next weeks and months. There is no wisdom in knee-jerk reactions to media-fueled hate and division. Do what's best for our city.

Sincerely,

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

My name is Diane Vogel. I am a long time resident of the City of Lincoln (69 years). Although now retired, I held leadership positions for Bryan Health for many years. I am appalled at the “group think” mentality from people in our City talking about defunding police! How ridiculous! I have never seen anything that would convince me to support that type of effort. If anything, we need more officers on our streets to handle the situations taking place. I was told letter writing may be beneficial. While I can’t believe it is necessary at all....here is mine ...... supporting LPD wholeheartedly!

Diane Vogel

Sent from my iPhone
Angela M. Birkett

From: Robin Spangler <Robin.Spangler@bryanhealth.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 4:30 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support

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

Please support LPD. We need them

Sent from my iPhone

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I am definitely in favor of having a police force. Enforcing the law is basic to a civilized society.
Marjorie Maney
To whom it may concern:

As the mom and a mother-in-law to two of your police officers who were physically & verbally abused and sadly emotionally affected by the so-called ‘peaceful protesters’ that embarked on Lincoln the last few weeks I beg you to carefully consider your budgetary decisions concerning LPD.

It saddened me to learn and see on the media that not all our officers were fully protected by riot gear. These officers put their lives on the line to protect your city to the best of their abilities. Defunding their department will be a slap in the face and demoralizing to each of them who held up under those ugly conditions. (Notice neither you nor I were brave enough to be out there defending Lincoln.)

What you all need is much more in-depth training on how to handle today’s civil right issues. Along with that please remember the emotional stress that careers in law enforcement can cause on them as human beings by making sure you also have trained mental health experts close at hand.

I’m a very proud mom of 3 LEO’s (one is a NE PO) but if you don’t support LPD to the best of your abilities as a Mayor and City Council how can I reassure them things will get better? Why will any officer want to work for the City of Lincoln if you are not all on the same page moving forward?

Please….make the right decisions!

Jo Peters
jkossowpeters@yahoo.com
In any discussions of defunding or in any way showing lack of support for our police, please give them your support in every way. Our police do a wonderful job trying to present a positive image in our city. They go out of their way to be fair and to meet the needs of everyone. They do an especially good job in dealing with our immigrants and all minorities.

Thank you.

Mariann Kozisek

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

I’m writing to urge you not defund the Lincoln Police Department.

In trying times like these, I feel it’s important for us to protect them!

Thank you,

Shelly Theil
Hi,

I understand there is a politically correct movement going on in Lincoln to defund our police force. I find that very offensive and ridiculous. This is not the time to bow down to some politically correct mantra going on in the country today. Please use facts to base decisions, not current emotions.

The Lincoln Police Department has a great record of keeping the Lincoln community safe from crime for a city of this size. We need more outstanding officers like we have today, to continue the trend of safety in our community and schools.

While the recent tragedies in other communities are terrible, I don't see that same mistrust with LPD officers in our community. They have always treated me with respect during any encounter I have had with them. My daughter who is hispanic has been in three accidents and was treated with respect each time.

-Who will Lincoln residents call if the police force is reduced?
-How many complaints have been logged against LPD? Never hear of any in the news.
-Who will the kids go to in schools when they are being bullied or god forbid there is a shooting
-Who will help with visitors and keep the city safe during large events at Pinnacle Bank or Husker Football which generates millions of tax dollars for the city.

I fully support LPD and wish to have my voice heard! How about you listen to the silent majority that goes to work, pays taxes, obeys the law and makes Lincoln a great place to live.

Thanks
Bruce Dragoo
8000 Nashway Road
Lincoln, NE 68516
402.450.9229
I am writing to the City Council to implore you to vote no for defunding the police. I have lived in Lincoln since 1975, have paid taxes and own property. I have never been so frightened for my safety as I have in the past month! The very fact that you would even consider this is frightening. If you do so, I will move out of this city and I won’t be the only one. My son’s business may move as well. I urge you to increase the support of our police! The future of Lincoln is at stake!

Kristie Holmberg
402-432-1679

Sent from my iPhone
Lincoln City Council,

There is talk from some who think we should defund our Lincoln police department. This is the most absurd and absolute ridiculous idea. In my neighborhood we have a city police officer who lives here. He’s an upstanding citizen and all around good moral person. I stand with many others who support our law enforcement offices across this great country. Anyone who thinks that we can live without law enforcement is delusional. If we defund our police, it will be sheer chaos. If defunding happens, a lot of citizens will be forced to take law and order into their own hands and defend themselves. Our officers are trained to deal with criminals. The average citizen is not.

In any profession there is always a few who bad individuals. But this doesn’t make the profession bad, just those few.

Please stand with our law enforcement and give them the support and resources they need, and deserve.

Respectfully,
Mike Clark
Dear Lincoln city Council Members:

I will keep this short and sweet. Please do do not defund Lincoln Police Department. The only people in Lincoln whom will benefit from this audaciously terrible idea is Lincoln’s criminal element. LPD has a long and rich history of protecting the citizens of Lincoln. For the past few years I have noticed LPDS use of force has been in the decrease with use of non lethal devices. I believe that alot of the bad press LPD has gotten stems from the May 31st incident where they were pelted with human feceses, gasoline, gun fire, fireworks, trash and urine. These officers protected the city when that group of rioters would have spread and done much greater damage. Many of my fellow citizens sleep better knowing LPD is watching out six while we sleep. We support this organization, its officers, staff and chief. LPD needs your support too!!

Thank you for your time Council members!!

Sincerely,

Ronald M. Kennedy
4025 Adam's st.
Lincoln Ne 68504.
We, John and Pamela Cermak at 5400 Troon Drive in Lincoln, NE support our police officers. Please count us among those who wish to acknowledge their great service. We oppose defunding police.

Sent from my iPhone
Dear Members of the Lincoln City Council,

I am writing today in support of our Lincoln City Police Officers. I realize that much has happened in the last few weeks that has caused much discussion about local and national law enforcement. The city of Lincoln has not been excluded from such discussions. As someone born in the 60s, I have lived through a few changes in our country. Never did I think we would be seeing such civil unrest, hatred, and unwillingness to ‘work’ together takeover in our society, but here we are. I may be an optimist living in a pessimistic world, but I cannot for the life of me see the good in defunding and dismantling a police department in ANY city in the United States. PLEASE do NOT destroy the lives of the many hard-working, GOOD people who work for the LPD. Change can be obtained WITHOUT ‘throwing the baby out with the bath water!’

Sincerely,
Brenda Clark
[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Council Members, I am writing to ask you to continue to support our Lincoln Police department. They do a fantastic job of keeping our city safe. My husband and I cannot imagine what life would be like without police officers.

Please DO NOT EVEN CONSIDER THIS RADICAL IDEA OF DEFUNDING The LPD. This would be a huge mistake!!!

Thank you,
Pat and Barb Gill

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

I value LPD!!!! Who do we call when we need help??? Defund them? Absolutely not! You are asking for the Wild West to come back!! Also, not only should we have resource officers in schools, the Dare Program should be reinstituted, too, to build positive relationships with children starting at the elementary level. I live in Belmont, I don’t want it to become any rougher than it already is!!!

Jo Crandell
Sent from my iPhone
Angela M. Birkett

From: Lisa Paul <lisa.paul4@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 6:05 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: support the Lincoln Police

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

My husband and I want to acknowledge and SUPPORT the Lincoln Police! They have been here to support and protect us ... Lincoln! Please stand up and support our Lincoln Police department!
Kevin and Lisa Paul
Lincoln, Ne

Sent from my iPhone
Dear Council Members,

As a concerned citizen I strongly disagree with defunding the Police Department. If anything they should receive more funding for additional officers and training. I would not want to live in a society in which the officers who put their lives on the line for ALL of us every day are treated worse then the citizens who choose NOT to follow instructions and break the law. It is apparent those few citizens rights are more important than the rights of the majority of the citizens or the officers who serve us.

Respectfully,
Ronda Foster
Please, please do not consider defunding the LPD. If there are internal issues, deal with them according to the rule of law. Make changes, learn. But taking away funding for those who protect and help 99.99% of the time is ridiculous. Lincolnites have more common sense than that.

Thank you,
Lynne Costin
7740 S. 26th
Lincoln, NE 68512
When things are crazy out there we need our Police more than ever. Defunding or Reducing Funding now is a mistake. I urge you to support our men and women in Blue with words, deeds and actions!

Nancy Stepp
nlstepp@gmail.com
7943 Nob Hill Road
Lincoln, NE 68516
(402) 304-3001
Support our Police Officers

I support our Law enforcement! We need them! I am against defunding! They are our protection!
Thank you!
Margaret Vencil
To Whom this Concerns.

As a law abiding taxpayer, I think it is absolutely absurd to defund the police force who keep law and order in the state of Nebraska. I recognize that some police officers have done things that are terribly wrong but that doesn’t warrant throwing out the whole program. Our country would be chaos if we did this. I cannot believe anyone could take defunding the police seriously.

Regina Moxley

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

I am totally for the police officers. I cannot comprehend what life would be like without our men in blue. They risk their lives every day to ensure our safety; defunding the police force is a totally ludicrous idea. I will back the blue forever.

Claudia Beasley
Sent from my iPhone
[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Sent from my
Please keep LPD funded.
Thank you.
From: Marty Kapler <dmarkap@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 6:47 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Keep Lincoln Police Dept. Funded

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

We have a great police dept and an increase salary that reflects the risk police take would be appropriate.

Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone
Dear Lincoln City Council,

I want to stand in favor and support of our Lincoln Police Department. I know at least 8 of them personally and can attest to their professionalism in protecting and serving our City of Lincoln. While continued education and formation is necessary, we are blessed to have them ensuring our safety and making sacrifices to maintain order, law and respect for humanity and property in Lincoln.

Sincerely,

Fr. Brian Connor
North American Martyrs Catholic Church
1101 Isaac Drive
Lincoln, NE 68521
402-476-8088
Witnessing to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and living the Sacramental Life
“For I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” Phil 4:13
To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to ask that the police department remain intact and not consider any reason for defunding. It is important to my family and I to know that there are people willing to help and protect. Without law and order, there is simply chaos and unrest. We cannot let the bad outweigh the good. Seeking justice means seeking it in every situation and defunding our police department would be a grievous injustice to the community and country.

Thank You and God Bless,
Shawna Fox
[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

We need our police! Please to not defund!

Jeanne Hupp
Sent from my iPhone
Law and order are of paramount importance. We have excellent police officers and in this most difficult time, need to support and encourage them. Their job is difficult enough. Please do not consider defunding the police.
I want to express my appreciation for all the Lincoln police do for the Lincoln community to make this a safe city to live in. Please keep LPD funded.

Mrs. Bonnie Maschka
3180 S. 72nd St. #25
Lincoln, Ne. 68506
Keep Lincoln Police funded. My safety is more important than political play games. We need police.
Bernice Polivka
321 G Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

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

Please do not defund the Lincoln Police Department. As a nurse I see first hand how our LPD help the community. Also, as a nurse we rely on LPD to be there when we need assistance at the hospital. Please keep our community safe by supporting the police department.

Thank you!

Tabitha Divis

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

Our Lincoln Police Department are wonderful. I work at a Credit Union and I know I can rely on them! I am so grateful for their support!

Joan Gocke
Sent from my iPhone
Hello,

My name is Lori Fallesen, I am a resident of Lincoln and I would like to voice my support for the Lincoln Police Department. The idea of defunding the police department is absurd to me. We are not a lawless nation and cannot function as a lawless nation. I wholeheartedly support LPD and hope my fellow Lincolmites join me in maintaining order in our community.

Thank you,

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

It makes NO since to defund our police department. Why??? Who in the world wants to live in a city/country that has no law and order? Who wants to live in fear? The police put their lives on the line for us each and every day and the rioters/protesters are disrespecting them, our country, and our way of life. Please don’t weaken and give in to a very small percentage of people that don’t care what happens to our beautiful city.

Deanne Damkroger

Sent from my iPhone
I have always loved the police officers in our city. 
They have done a wonderful job in protecting our city and making us feel safe. 
Please help to bring respect back to our officers of peace.

deb

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: 
To live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life. Ps 27:4

IN GOD WE TRUST
From: findbob33@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 8:32 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Fund police

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

Please continue to fund and support the Lincoln police and law enforcement to protect the rights and properties of all Lincoln residents as given to all US citizens by the US Constitution.
Robert Finder, 7512 Whitestone Dr, Lincoln, 68506

Sent from my iPhone
I was sent a message about defunding the police and I am very proud of our LPD for working with our community and trying to understand and make changes with our black community. I have not been in the shoes of being black but I know we need our officers. I hope our community can make the changes and come together and understand one another and be the change. Hope I can attend some meetings.

Sent from my iPhone
From: claire Krings <clairekrings@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 8:36 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support and funds

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

Please continue to support and fund the law enforcement!
As a long time citizen of Lincoln, I feel compelled to email you in support of law enforcement. At this time I believe that Lincoln is a very safe city to live in. Thankfully we do not have the crime that other cities have. I shudder to think what Lincoln may look like without LEOs. Personally I beg any of you that are in favor of defunding the police to imagine who you would like showing up to your emergency.
Thank you for considering all perspectives Roni Bliemeister

Sent from my iPhone
Roni
Imagine being a mom home alone with her kids, woken up by the sound of someone knocking on her door at 130 am, hesitantly walking down the hallway as he starts to kick and scream to "open the fucking door" your kids are scared, your terrified. You call 911 and right away LPD is on their way to your house and that 911 operator stays on the phone with you the whole time and keeps you calm so you can keep your kids calm. You don't know if this guy has a gun, all you know is that you do not and all you want to do it protect your kids. Thank God for LPD, they didn't know if he had a gun, they saw a guy kicking someone's door (I live on the north side, kindof sketch at times) and screaming. Now thankfully this was just a drunk man who had picked the wrong house and only damage done was urine on my doorstep. Those cops never know what they are walking into but they do there job to protect us, to protect you, to protect me. You want to defund that? What if I had been you that night, or your daughter, granddaughter? Would you still want them defunded?

Thanks for your time reading this, if ya did!

Staci Rudolph
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<tr>
<th>From:</th>
<th>Joe &amp; Agnes Hanigan <a href="mailto:joeagnes@gmail.com">joeagnes@gmail.com</a></th>
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<td>To:</td>
<td>Council Packet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject:</td>
<td>Re: LPD</td>
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</table>

We have amazing police officers and a great total department. It is so important to continue to fund and support these forgotten heroes. As average citizens, we have no idea the kind of tasks they are expected to perform.

Agnes and Joe Hanigan
I am emailing to express my strong support for our Lincoln Police Department. I strongly oppose any suggestion to reduce their funding.
Thank you
Nikki Dolan

Sent from my iPhone
DEAR CITY COUNCIL;

I am in support of our LPD.  
Please vote to maintain them for  
the well being of our great city of Lincoln.

Sincerely,  
Cece Evermann

Sent from my iPhone
Dear Lincoln City Council:

Please do not defund the police. They put their lives on the line for us every day. Weakening or loss of their services would result in anarchy in our city.

Sincerely,

Rodney A. Moxley
4500 Neumann Lane
Lincoln, NE 68516

Sent from my iPhone
Angela M. Birkett

From: Angela Barry <barry.angela@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 9:43 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support the police

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

I 100% support our Lincoln City Police Department. To not support the amount of work they do for our community is ludicrous.

Here are just a couple of many examples of why defunding the police doesn’t make sense:

Lincoln Public Schools is asking for trouble if they take School Resource Officers out of the schools. That is one of many places in our community they have always had the most positive impact and kept kids safe. Why do we want to take that away? With mass shootings on the rise who is going to protect our kids? With racial unrest, who is going to diffuse these situations when they become violent? Who is going to hold kids accountable for their criminal actions toward other students? What do kids do if they need help? School resource officers get to know the kids in those schools one on one. They build relationships with them. Know their families and backgrounds and when something goes wrong they know how best to handle these situations and care about these students. Without their presence there is an absence of law and order and calm over what could be potentially volatile situations.

Police officers in the special victims unit have dedicated their lives to save children from sexual perpetrators. If these officers quit because of the lack of support they receive, what will these kids do that have been abused and the perpetrator goes free and they are victimized again and again? How is that good for our community?

What about looting? Shoplifting? Who is going to hold criminals accountable? Take officers away and you invite these behaviors to be the norm. How is that good for business owners who pay their taxes? These business owners will be forced to close, jobs will be lost, unemployment will rise. How is that good for our community?

Who is going to protect us? If you don’t start showing respect and support for our police officers now, you won’t have any left and what will our city look like then? It will be mass chaos and not safe to go out in the streets in fear for our lives. Something needs to be done to save our police department.

Enough is enough!

The Mayor is by far the worst Mayor we have ever had. She is not a leader. She does not support the police and in turn law and order. Lincoln is in horrible hands with her in office. She needs to be voted out and someone who understands law and order needs to be put in her place. Putting in curfews and not letting police enforce them or arrest those who violated was unfair to law abiding citizens who were scared to come out of their homes. Businesses closed early with loss in sales. She put everyone in danger by not letting police do their job and arresting the rioters and looters who were breaking the law. How is that fair to those businesses? She’s inviting more of the same with her lack of support for the police. She is a disgrace.

With the continued lack of support, police will quit and who is going to go in their place and take the abuse of the community leaders and their lack of support. No one will want to be a police officer. The position we are in is scary. It is your job to take the community back over and stand up in support of what our police department does for us and how much they are needed.
Bottom line is we need law and order. You take that away, what do you have in it’s place?

I know my life, my kids lives, my friends lives, the the black community, Asian community, Mexican community and all police officers lives matter and tax payers lives and businesses matter too!

Please protect us by supporting our police department.

Support the police and everything they do for our community!
I am a resident of Lincoln, Nebraska and I do support the difficult job our police force has. I'm aware at times there are a few who do not take their oath correctly but the ones that do far outnumber the others. I pray daily for their safety and that they make good judgments when faced with decisions.
Thank you!
Hello Council Members,

I wish to express my support for the LPD.

I feel that a well funded police department is necessary for residents like myself to feel safe. I want the police department to have the people power to work with the community to prevent crimes. Be proactive to help citizens rather than have limited funds to be only reactive. Police are the first responders to a wide variety of situations. We need the police.

Regards,

Sue Hruby
Dear Councilmembers,
I would like to offer my support and appreciation for LPD. They put their lives on the line for us every day. They help protect us, catch criminals, provide a safe place to meet at their 27th street location to sell items, and they keep law & order.
We do not want to defund the police. That will both make conditions unsafe for them to do their job and will provide less manpower. Defunding the police won't stop assaults from happening, won't stop people from stealing from Walmart, won't stop domestic abuse, won't stop people from breaking into your home or vehicle, etc. Instead there will be anarchy.
A good police force helps a town economically. People feel safe to walk around downtown and go to the businesses there when there is law and order. But the opposite is not true of Minneapolis. As soon as their city council voted to defund their police department, people started cancelling their events there, as they didn't want to have their event in a town without police and where anarchy reigns.
As a resident of Lincoln for over 30 years I vote to fund and support LPD.
Thank you for your consideration.
Roshelle Castinado
Good evening,

I wanted to take this opportunity to express my support of LPD. Now more than ever we need to support law enforcement. More harm than good will come to us as a whole society if we reduce funding to LPD. I believe there are more threats to our largely peaceful society if defunding of our police department takes place. I realize it could look many different ways and we are being told that it will add benefits for mental health situations, etc. but the reality is, those who break the law already do so, not because police exist, but rather because they believe they can get away with it in spite of them! Imagine how emboldened criminals will become if we reduce law enforcement and/or tie their hands further.

Please, do not defund the police. It really is a bad idea.

Thank you for your consideration,
Wendy Colson
Hi, Keep the police! We love our city, we love the police department! Keep up the good fight! We support you. We have had car theft, suspicious person, and a few more incidents involving the police and we respect the way all situations were handled! We support you!
-S.Daharsh, Lincoln Ne resident
Dear Members of the City Council,

My name is Jean Timmerman. I live at 637 South 40th Street in Lincoln.

Thank you the time and effort you put forth to help run our city. I know that you all work hard and you certainly don’t do it for the pay.

I have heard that there is consideration in Lincoln to defund the police. I would like to say that I am shocked that this idea could be taken seriously, but in the world of today it is clearly not impossible. While we must hold bad law enforcement officers accountable for evil actions, PLEASE DO NOT DEFUND OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICE. It seems to me that we throw money at our education system every time I turn around to make it better (albeit not on the local level of funding), but our answer to bad policing is to defund. I am befuddled by this thought. We MUST hold our law enforcement officers to a high standard and ANY racism (or other-ism) cannot be tolerated, but getting rid of a necessary entity is ridiculous. IF we have problems the answer is to FIX THEM. If my car is not working I don’t just get rid of it because I need it. I might get a new one if the old one is not working, but getting rid of it is not an option. To defund an entity is to lose it. Who is going to hold bad actors on our streets accountable if we do not have good, appreciated law enforcement officers to do so?

Thank you and have a wonderful day!
Jean Timmerman
I support the police in Lincoln Nebraska! Lincoln is the cleanest and safest city my family has ever lived in, due to their strong police force. It is ridiculous to think this is in jeopardy now due to a small minority of big mouths with in your face tactics. Sincerely, M.A Stamps
I support the Lincoln Police Department. Lincoln is by far the cleanest and safest city my family has ever lived in, thanks to the LPD. It is ridiculous to think this is now in jeopardy due to a small minority of loud mouths with 'in your face' tactics. Thank you, M. Stamps
We are totally Against de-funding the Police. It would be better to fund hand-to-hand combat/restraint training like Krav Maga for the Police.
Lawlessness must not reign in our city!
Cameron Carlson
Karen A. Carlson
1010 Elmwood Av.
Lincoln, NE 68510
Dear City Council,

If it makes sense to you to defund the police, I would be interested to hear your reasoning in a response to this email.

I have lived in Lincoln since 2003. I know the Sheriff and the Chief of Police. They are both decent and honest men who run their departments very well. I am neighbors with, and in the Army National Guard, with many Lincoln Policemen. They are all as honest and hardworking as the day is long.

These people were standing on the front lines to protect people and property while rioters threw bottles full of gasoline at them and launched fireworks at them in the hopes of setting them on fire. Would you do that?

I will leave Lincoln for good if the Police force is reduced or defunded. Lincoln is a growing community because it is one of the last Cities with a small town feel. By small town feel, I mean safe to walk your dog, jog, own a business and trust it won't get vandalized. I do not want Lincoln to turn into Minneapolis.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my opinion.
Kevin Reiners
Lincoln Resident
To Whom it may concern,

In light of the recent protests happening in our city, state and country I would like to show my support of the local law enforcement. The actions of a few has tainted the view of all. It is true that the actions taken against Mr. Floyd and others were horrifying and there needs to be consequences and changes made. However, defunding the police department is not the answer. The majority of these men and women put their lives on the line every day to protect and aid the public.

Sincerely,

Deb Barmore
Dear Council Members:

What a trying time this has been for our Country, as well as our beloved City. I don't really know how many of you were born and raised here, I don't know your histories. I was born in Lincoln, my parents moved south of the city and I went to Norris High School for 6 years and have lived in Lincoln ever since.
I think our LPD officers do a fabulous job. I believe just because pockets of the United States decide to change the way they relate to their police departments does not mean we need to do the same. I guess I have never been one to be a "follower" I tend to think for myself and decide.
I think hearing that the police officers in Minnesota may have had many complaints against them prior to the murder of Mr. Floyd may be a concern. I would like to think the LPD administration does a good job with any complaints against our officers.
I hope you as our elective council would really look at what is best for Lincoln. It's not about following a crowd. We have men and women on this police force that I truly appreciate. I have had to call them before and I have had family members on the other side of the law. They were always treated with respect and fairly despite committing a crime. I appreciate our LPD, as well as our fire and rescue and our family lets them know it as often as we can.
Thank you for your service to Lincoln as well. I have been on one board in my life and I know it's not an easy job making tough decisions.

Thank you for your time.
Jennifer Novotny
[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

With all due respect I am writing you today to ask you to please keep funding our Lincoln Police Department! These brave men and women who put their lives on the line daily so that we can sleep safe at night do not deserve this! I realize that our country is in turmoil right now but if we don’t take a stand now we will lose everything that our forefathers have fought and died for so that we can live in peace! Thank You for your time.  J Rothwell

Sent from my iPho
Lincoln City Council,
Please do not defund the police department. Our city needs them! They are doing a great job protecting us! Thank you!
Sincerely,
Shannon K. Gill
7630 S. 64th St.
Lincoln, Nebraska 68516

Sent from my iPhone
Please city council do not defund the police department they are doing. a very good job.
Dear Mayor and Lincoln City Council Members:

We have a question. With protesters, that get out of order and cause a riot. What is your solution to keep our community safe? Please respond to this e-mail.

Concerned,

Ron and Lynette Nash
Ladies and Gentleman of the council,

I think that we all need to pump the breaks on defunding the Lincoln Policy Department. While I don’t claim to be an expert on the situation at hand, I believe that making decisions based solely on emotions is rarely, if ever, the right thing to do. Do our statistics of our local policy department show that there is need for a drastic measure such as what is being proposed? I don’t believe that our values in the Midwest are shared around the country and while there is need for change, I am not in favor of defunding something that protects our communities and allows us the freedoms that we share as Americans. I am a Christian white male, so I don’t claim to know how it is to live as a person of color (how could I), changes do need to be made but I think that instead of jumping off the roof to try and prove how serious we are about making changes why don’t we continue to have open dialogue with leaders of our community (of all races) and discuss how we can better take care of our collaborative needs? What is going on at the Malone center is a great start, let’s expand on that, along side of our brothers and sisters in blue, they are people too, with needs, families, fears and a desire to serve that I tip my hat too and say thank you from the bottom of my heart.

WE THE PEOPLE. WE. ALL OF US................. BECAUSE WE ARE TRULY “IN THIS TOGETHER”. Great slogan but time we live it, together.

God Bless,

Gary W. Roberts  
Financial Planner  
ChFc, CLU, ChSNC  
8101 O Street, Suite 119  
Lincoln, NE 68510  
Direct: 402-904-3039  
Cell: 402-430-3732  
Fax: 402-904-3037
copied.

Registered Representative of and securities offered through MML Investors Services, LLC, Member SIPC and a MassMutual subsidiary. Transactions may not be accepted by e-mail, fax, or voicemail.
[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Please keep LPD funded. Very important to our community. All of the police should not have to pay for the crimes of a few officers.
Please keep Lincoln our peaceful community. I personally respect and admire what LPD does for all of us.
Rita Widhelm

Sent from my iPhone
Dear Council members,

I am writing in support of our police officers. They are dedicated to keeping us safe, and they put their safety on the line every day in order to take care of us. Please continue to fully fund the Lincoln Police Department. I admire our police officers and am grateful for them.

Sincerely,

Susan Sand
2505 S. 24th St.
Lincoln Ne 68502
To the Lincoln City Council,

I honestly can't believe there is a need to write an email like this. The Lincoln Police Department is full of men and women who put on their badge every day to serve and protect this community. They risk their own lives to protect the members of our community...they are willing to put themselves in harm's way and risk not coming home to their own families to ensure someone else does get to go home. I keep seeing in the media and people's comments about lack of training and how LPD should be defunded because they aren't equipped to handle certain calls and situations. Training for LPD officers doesn't stop. They are trained to respond to all situations and are always striving to be better. These men and women deserve the city council's support and the support of the community. We can't let the terrible acts of bad officers in other departments effect their hard work and dedication to our community. Please do not take funding away from the Lincoln Police Department, if anything they need funding for more officers to address the shortage of officers they have. I can tell you that the officers we have are the good ones. The ones that work hard to solve heinous crimes, the ones that protect people that can't protect themselves, the ones who want to get out there and make connections with citizens in the community, the ones who listen and comfort people on the worst day of their life, the ones who put their desire to help those in need above their own needs, the ones that see the evil that is out there and know that they will do all they can to stop it, the ones that see people's struggles and find them the help and resources they need, they are the ones that see and hear things that can't be forgotten and no matter what they will continue to be all these things and more because the badge was their calling. I sincerely hope the Mayor and the City Council choose to not take funding away from the incredible police department Lincoln has.

Thank you for your time,
Amber Fields
I am sending this general support email for the Lincoln Police Department. I live just outside of the city limits but work in Lincoln and I have been here since 1972. I have from time to time had contact with LPD officers for various reasons including moving violations and business related conversations. I have never had an occasion where an officer spoke or acted inappropriately with me, I never got the feeling that they were enforcing their will rather, just enforcing the law. I am really proud of LPD and how it handles itself and supports Lincoln citizens. I hope that you’ll take this into consideration.

Roger Stortenbecker
5501 Liberty Lane
402.580.0479
Hi
My name is Joan Texel I was born and raised in Lincoln. I fully support the Lincoln police Officers they do an amazing job every day in challenging circumstances our city will be in chaos if you de-fund the police I vote for the police please consider the importance of this decision one police officers actions do not make all of them bad look at the big picture
Joan Texel

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

I thoroughly support our police officers here in Lincoln. They deserve our support. It would be a terrible mistake to defund them. Catherine Rokke

Sent from my iPhone
I am voicing my opposition to any de-funding or unnecessary budget cuts to the LPD. Law and order and the safety of Lincoln's citizens is the PRIMARY duty of our local government. In order to attract businesses, professionals, and tourists to our city they have to know that it is safe and inviting. After retiring from the Marines in California, we decided to return to Lincoln to raise our girls. One of the main reasons was for their safety.

Respectfully
Jack Pietenpol.
Msgt USMC Retired
From: bruce eigsti <brucerob62@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 25, 2020 11:29 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Police

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

PLease do the right thing and DO NOT DEFUND THE POLICE!

THANKS
Bruce E.
To the City Council members of Lincoln, NE:

Watching the unrest in our cities is disconcerting to say the least. Watching the disrespect of good police and decent authority is awful. But then it came to MY home! The recent protests that led to raucous riots in our big little city have me unnerved. I never would have dreamed I would see this in Lincoln, NE. Our police DO NOT have the reputation of abuse, racism! I have MANY friends and acquaintances in our fine city that are not white (I am white). I have never heard one single comment about our unfair police or police brutality from any of them. In fact they applaud the fact that they diligently keep our streets and neighborhoods safe from criminals OF ALL COLORS!!

Please know that the majority of our city is truly thankful and grateful for all they do for us. So much of their service is way beyond what is even expected!! These wonderful men and women are our friends, neighbors, sit in church services with us and care for us. The LPD employees that I know personally do not think of their jobs as just a paycheck. I would venture to believe it is true of every single one out there. That job is a vocation, a mission – and we are blessed here in Lincoln, NE with a band of committed people with our best at heart.

I have seen signs on street corners in my neighborhood saying, “Defund the Police”. Defund the police? Absolutely not!!! Please, please support our men and women in blue. Police morale is in the pits right now. And in our city there is no reason for it. The acts of a few bad cops elsewhere does not mean our police are brutal racists!

Please do not succumb to the very few who have infiltrated our town and are trying to spread discontent. You – our city leaders – should be upholding and supporting our law keepers. We the people want them there and you members of the City Council were voted in to represent us.

Respectfully,

Mary Lockard
2311 Kessler Blvd
Lincoln, NE 68502
It was brought to my attention that the matter of defunding the police department is being brought before the council.

I strongly disapprove of this idea. I believe the Lincoln Police Department is very good. In the past few years, they have done many things to communicate with the public and our families to bring about a better relationship.

I am appalled at what is happening to law and order across our land. Why would we punish entire police departments for the actions of a few?

Please do not approve this action. Thank you. Sharon Smith, 4110 Normal Blvd, 68506

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Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. (Rom. 12:12)
I’m not sure that even the person who first spoke those words “Defund the police” thought thru what they were thinking. Who then would protect those needing protection? Do we supply everyone with a weapon to protect themselves? Do you think that there will be less crime if there are no police? Do we go back to posses to have mob rule on everything? How would a social worker stop a speeder who drives too fast? Will the social worker get back stolen goods for us?

Just what were they thinking? I am for the police departments. Perhaps the thought is that if you are a policeman or a police woman that you are no longer human. That is like thinking every doctor is perfect. Your government leaders are perfect. That your pastors and teachers are perfect. That I am perfect.

I don’t know the answer to how to make every policeman perfect because they are human. It always takes a concerted effort to correct any person who strays from what they are assigned to do or have promised to do. There is an answer but everyone, EVERYONE, needs to be reasonable. It is a joint effort.

If the police are done away with there would not be need for the following:
Lawyers
Courts
Judges
Mayors
Government workers

Where would it end. What is needed is to bring back morality and common sense. Take care of your fellow man or woman. Stop seeking self above all.

By and large the police protect and serve.
To whom it may concern:

I support our Lincoln police law enforcement officers. They play a vital role in helping to uphold laws we already have as a city, county, state, and country. I realize that divisions and jurisdictions exist—however, certain levels of law cannot be in conflict with others, especially those of our national constitution and Bill of Rights.

In regards to defunding police or reducing budget in our city because of the cries of a few younger people making serious allegations of systemic racism, in conflating the violent and unjust actions of some officers elsewhere as a picture of what is happening here locally, are dangerous grounds. Granted, those things could come here if we did not have excellent training of our police officers, that is why I propose we increase funding, not decrease it.

As a national whole, we have not all been on the same road to the state of equal justice under the law, and there is much more police training and transparency that needs to occur—but to throw around the word racist in our city and equate what happens here with what happens in places where there are huge deficits in care and concern for the individual citizen is an incorrect and fallacious mindset.

To defund or circumvent much needed funding from police in our city would be a mistake. I personally believe that we need to have additional officers hired, with correct screening and training in place. Lincoln is growing, so it would be a logical leap to say that we probably need more officers, not less. Also, I feel that there needs to be more education taking place in the schools on what our LEOs purposes are, starting in elementary school and up through high school. I also think that there needs to be equal representation at each of the high schools (and middle schools?) with resource officers, even if new positions need to be made, if that isn't in place already. There needs to be protections in place for our police officers as well as our citizens.

As a city, it would behoove us to take up the current Justice bill on a small scale, something that senator Tim Scott, a black senator, has helped draft, which Nancy Pelosi and other government leadership has illogically disparaged him over. I would implore you to please study that and take the best parts from it, if not the whole thing to use as a model for our city. Lincoln could be an exemplary city that leads the way for the nation in modeling how police and citizens work together in equal justice and fair treatment under the law.

I love our citizens and I see the concerns of those that are classified as minorities. There may need to be more done there from minority leadership in the community and in individual homes to help bridge the gap between an aggressive mindset towards law enforcement officers and then conversely, more transparency and how our local law enforcement officers are trained.

With all the renewed nationwide attention on the evil police brutality, it is evident that some of our people here (mainly those of generation Z and some people of my generation, millennials), have not absorbed or properly been taught the logic and critical thinking skills that are needed to understand that these types of evils are happening in every town and city across the country. Instead, they (and others) have been informed on how to think and what to think about these horrible events from very partisan and philosophically and socially Marxist
organizations, and factually incorrect and widely available media sources, which seek intersectionality and division based on groups, and not individual merit, opposing Dr. Martin Luther King's desire as a very good standard.

Also, I believe that the age of "selfies" in social media and 24-hour news sources have done a lot to contribute to the panic, regardless of political leaning. Our very own local news sources even contribute to the panic and stir the pot without asking for solutions, with continuous editorializing (instead of merely stating facts of situations) through headlining comments (that are often grammatically incorrect, which indicates mental carelessness), when placing articles onto Facebook. Fear is being heightened in our culture and that is not the way forward and through, to new places of understanding and racial reconciliation. There needs to be reassurance through transparency in what local government is already doing and planning on doing (such as with the new police and citizen committee that has been made), and getting the word out through these same channels of developments, since they are what younger people gravitate towards.

I know I am not the only person who feels this way about our police and the other issues that were mentioned. I know things have been unequal for many different peoples, especially our vulnerable POC population in many places and times in our nation's history, including recently. However, I do not believe that special protections are needed, but that equal protection and justice under the law needs upheld in perpetuity, as intended. I think this needs to apply to every immutable population that we have in our very diverse and beautiful city. We are all human, of one race, and need treated as such.

I hope this is an encouragement and helps in some small way, to know my perspective.

Thank you for taking the time to read my essay.

-Kati Miller
Dear Lincoln City Council members

Please keep our Lincoln Police Department funded. I know we are in difficult times but we need to keep our police officers funded and supported. They do a fantastic job even under all of the criticism. They very rarely receive thanks for all of the good that they do each and every day.

Judy Geidner
I oppose any defunding of the police. If anything should be done is to increase funding for training and recruiting quality candidates.

Any defunding I believe will result in increased crime as we are seeing in those large cities where the police force has been demoralized by lack of support.

Respectfully
Chris Wadhams
I am writing to THANK our valiant police officers and to let them know I am PRAYING for them. Most of all, the city council needs to know we want the police officers FUNDED. Thank you for your time.

Marilyn Friesen
Lincoln NE
To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in regard to recent questions about police funding. Please help keep LPD funded. Their service to our community is invaluable and irreplaceable. The poor choice of some officers is not necessarily a reflection of the whole. Friendly (or not so friendly) neighbors cannot take the place of well-trained police.

I have been impressed by Chief Bleimeister and his staff. Lincoln deserves to be safe and the police help ensure that is possible.

Thank you for your time and consideration!

Sister Kathryn Maney, M.S.
402-786-2750 (home)
402-488-0921 (work)
Correction to my essay, paragraph 7, should say "...to understand that these types of evils are NOT happening in every town and city across the country." Also, I saw two other small errors.

Thank you again for reading.

On Thu, Jun 25, 2020, 12:06 PM Kati Miller <mrskatimiller@gmail.com> wrote:

To whom it may concern:

I support our Lincoln police law enforcement officers. They play a vital role in helping to uphold laws we already have as a city, county, state, and country. I realize that divisions and jurisdictions exist however, certain levels of law cannot be in conflict with others, especially those of our national constitution and Bill of Rights.

In regards to defunding police or reducing budget in our city because of the cries of a few younger people making serious allegations of systemic racism, in conflating the violent and unjust actions of some officers elsewhere as a picture of what is happening here locally, are dangerous grounds. Granted, those things could come here if we did not have excellent training of our police officers, that is why I propose we increase funding, not decrease it.

As a national whole, we have not all been on the same road to the state of equal justice under the law, and there is much more police training and transparency that needs to occur-but to throw around the word racist in our city and equate what happens here with what happens in places where there are huge deficits in care and concern for the individual citizen is an incorrect and fallacious mindset.

To defund or circumvent much needed funding from police in our city would be a mistake. I personally believe that we need to have additional officers hired, with correct screening and training in place. Lincoln is growing, so it would be a logical leap to say that we probably need more officers, not less. Also, I feel that there needs to be more education taking place in the schools on what our LEOs purposes are, starting in elementary school and up through high school. I also think that there needs to be equal representation at each of the high schools (and middle schools?) with resource officers, even if new positions need to be made, if that isn't in place already.

There needs to be protections in place for our police officers as well as our citizens. As a city, it would behoove us to take up the current Justice bill on a small scale, something that senator Tim Scott, a black senator, has helped draft, which Nancy Pelosi and other government leadership has illogically disparaged him over. I would implore you to please study that and take the best parts from it, if not the whole thing to use as a model for our city. Lincoln could be an exemplary city that leads the way for the nation in modeling how police and citizens work together in equal justice and fair treatment under the law.

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an aggressive mindset towards law enforcement officers and then conversely, more transparency and how our local law enforcement officers are trained.

With all the renewed nationwide attention on the evil police brutality, it is evident that some of our people here (mainly those of generation Z and some people of my generation, millennials), have not absorbed or properly been taught the logic and critical thinking skills that are needed to understand that these types of evils are happening in every town and city across the country. Instead, they (and others) have been informed on how to think and what to think about these horrible events from very partisan and philosophically and socially Marxist organizations, and factually incorrect and widely available media sources, which seek intersectionality and division based on groups, and not individual merit, opposing Dr. Martin Luther King’s desire as a very good standard.

Also, I believe that the age of "selfies" in social media and 24-hour news sources have done a lot to contribute to the panic, regardless of political leaning. Our very own local news sources even contribute to the panic and stir the pot without asking for solutions, with continuous editorializing (instead of merely stating facts of situations) through headlining comments (that are often grammatically incorrect, which indicates mental carelessness), when placing articles onto Facebook. Fear is being heightened in our culture and that is not the way forward and through, to new places of understanding and racial reconciliation. There needs to be reassurance through transparency in what local government is already doing and planning on doing (such as with the new police and citizen committee that has been made), and getting the word out through these same channels of developments, since they are what younger people gravitate towards.

I know I am not the only person who feels this way about our police and the other issues that were mentioned. I know things have been unequal for many different peoples, especially our vulnerable POC population in many places and times in our nation's history, including recently. However, I do not believe that special protections are needed, but that equal protection and justice under the law needs upheld in perpetuity, as intended. I think this needs to apply to every immutable population that we have in our very diverse and beautiful city. We are all human, of one race, and need treated as such.

I hope this is an encouragement and helps in some small way, to know my perspective.

Thank you for taking the time to read my essay.

-Kati Miller
Having lived in the great city of Lincoln years ago and still having ties with Lincoln causes me to visit once in a while. In comparison with other cities within a 300 to 500 mile radius, (of which I'm more familiarized with) Lincoln stands head and shoulders above all. Even with the vast amount of influx from the University, it still is recognized as a safe place to live. There are many cities within that radius which cannot measure up to the clean, safe and respectability as the city of Lincoln. I would credit the LPD as having a major part this outcome. This cannot be said of so many other cities. Every organization has struggles, but the procedures and overall character of the LPD doesn't seem to be broken, so, I certainly would not suggest to try and fix it with an experiment of unknown outcome. If defunding is accomplished, those advocates for such a move as this will be back on the door step of complaining, forgetting they got what they asked for. It will again be up to you to solve the problems of which others created through public pressure. I'm against the defunding.

Sincerely, Rick Coates
Greetings Lincoln City Council,

Thank you for your service to our wonderful community. We also wish to express our gratitude and appreciation for the incredible work of our fine Lincoln Police Department!

As talk around the country has surfaced around defunding police departments, we would like to request that support be increased for our Lincoln Police Department.

This year, on our street we had a series of vehicle break-ins along our quiet, beautiful street and also a drug dealer working from one of the homes on our block. The neighbors watched, reported and worked with the LPD and happily, this issue has been resolved.

The officers were very professional in these matters and we were especially grateful to be able to call upon them in our need. Please support the LPD. As tax payers, we believe investing in the health and continued vibrancy of our Lincoln community is essential and we enthusiastically support the important role the Lincoln Police Department serves in the well-being of all who call Lincoln home.

Thank you!
Kevin and Laurie Clark family

Sent from my iPhone
We wish to go on record as saying we are in total support of Chief Blimeister & his force.. we do not want the dept. defunded in any way!! These folks do truly serve & support us; in the face of much ridicule, even danger. This is not the time to defund any of them! They need more personnel & more support than ever.

Mike & Pat Meierhenry
1000 Teton Court
Dear Lincoln City Council:

Our family would like to send a message to the Lincoln City Council affirming our support for the police force in your city. We are Nebraska residents, but do not live in the city of Lincoln (from Lexington), yet we visit the capitol city from time to time and would like to see the police force kept in position and supported. We believe they provide a valuable resource for not only Lincoln residents, but also for the safety of those who visit our beautiful capitol.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We are praying you have great wisdom and prudence in making this decision.

Sincerely,
Nathan & Alissa Rhea
To whom it may concern:

We visit Lincoln Nebraska at least 6 times a year. We love the shopping and dining in Lincoln and occasional sporting events as well. We always know that if and when we may assistance, we will have it. It is mind boggling to us to learn that the city of Lincoln is even entertaining the idea of defunding the police department.

When we visit Lincoln and spend our hard-earned money there, we hope and pray that we will be protected. If we find out the city will defund the police department, we will spend our time and money elsewhere and certainly encourage many family and friends to do the same.

Thank you for your time,
A concerned Nebraska resident.

Anderson Graphics
Scott & Corky Anderson
42971 Road 752
Lexington, Nebraska 68850
God Bless You and God Bless America
Angela M. Birkett

From: cathy sarnes <csarnes@outlook.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 25, 2020 12:57 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Support law enforcement

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

Dear Council Members,
We support and need our city police, and county law enforcement!
Defunding our law enforcement will mean they don’t receive the training and equipment needed to keep us safe. We need officers to keep our communities safe!
Sincerely,
Cathy Sarnes
110 W 11th
Lexington, NE

Sent from my iPhone
We support the Lincoln Police and want increased funding for them. They are good men and women who deserve our support.

Kerrey Buser MD
From: Laura Sypal <lsypal@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 25, 2020 1:04 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Do not defund our police

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

Please do not cut funding to our police department. This is too vital of an institution to cut back on, and I hate to imagine what our city would become with even LESS police. Let’s focus on excellent screening-selection-hiring and training practices for police to promote more justice, rather than making cuts to the department.

Thank you,
Laura Sypal
5942 Culwells Rd
Lincoln, NE 68516

Sent from my iPhone
I am writing to support our police!
I know when I walk out my door that if I am in need of help the police are there 24 hours 7 days a week. They serve our community in so many capacities.
I know that they are needed in the LPS also. They represent authority in our schools and many times keep the peace.
I have several friends that are officers and I know the devote a great deal to time to their jobs. The police have come under some fire lately, however the root of the problem did not start in our community. They were just doing the best practice to keep all of us safe.
Please do not take the funding away from our security. Keep my kids, family, and community safe!
Thanks,
Shelly Young
I strongly support our Law enforcement officers and the protection they provide to our entire city, county and state.

Sent from my iPhone
From: Barb Haith <barbhaith@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 25, 2020 1:21 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Find LPD

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

Please keep funding the police for our safety.
Hire more officers too.
Thank you.
Barbara Haith

Sent from my iPhone
To Whom It May Concern -
I wanted to take a moment to express how grateful and blessed we are to be served by LPD. Neither myself or any member of my family have ever felt disrespected or fearful of any representative of Lincoln Police Department, EVER. In fact, we are so glad to know that they are there for us, in full force and that they are ready and able to assist us fully, ALWAYS. Please do not consider defunding them in anyway, and do whatever is necessary to keep them safe, fully equipped and proud to be a part of such a great organization. We are depending on the members of Lincoln City Council to do your part to keep us safe and properly prepared, ALWAYS.

Respectfully,
Evelyn Tuma

Sent from my iPhone
I am sending you this letter today to express my support and appreciation for our local law enforcement. LPD does an outstanding job protecting citizens and keeping order with a small force compared to other similar sized cities.

Please support and provide funding to keep our police strong and active in the community. I think the world would be a much better place if there were more law enforcement departments modeling the approach that LPD takes.

Sincerely,

Cory Weller
I strongly support our Lincoln Police. No organization has a worst job than policemen. They need all peoples help, not defunding or even something worse.

I request that the council submit a resolution in strong support of our Police.

Thanks for your help Paul Liess
From: Judith Sternhagen <msjja888@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 25, 2020 1:49 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Funding our Police

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

All:
Please continue to fully fund the Lincoln Police. They are essential to the welfare of our community and contribute to the general wellbeing felt in our neighborhoods. Based on recent events, I would highly encourage an expansion of funding for the Department and the addition of more officers.

Thank you.

Dr. Judith Sternhagen
Lincoln, NE

Sent from my iPad
As an Historian, I can tell you that prior to the establishment of publicly funded police forces, individuals (regardless of race, ethnicity, or religion) were at the mercy of mob rule. Either you joined the mob, whether their actions were morally right or not, or suffer the consequences. And who determined right from wrong? No, I’m sorry there is only one right answer to this largely rhetorical question. The leaders of the mob made that determination. And 99% of you people do not have the credentials to be the leaders. You might ask where we can find these leaders of mobs? In prison, thanks to our police force and the legal system they support. So the next time you think mob rule is the better choice, find one of their leaders, slip your finger through a belt loop on his pants and tag along. You deserve what is coming.
[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

To whom it may concern,

The defunding of our law enforcement is absolutely nonsense. I understand and agree that there needs to be change, but we also need law and order. The Lincoln Police Department is absolutely outstanding and does an amazing job at protecting the residents of this city. The issue at hand is just one issue. Police provide so much more than the issue at hand. We have burglaries, rapes, assaults, vandalism .. just to name a few. When I think of a community with no police, the only word that comes to mind is chaos. Are you ready for the citizens of Lincoln to take the law into their own hands? Change is needed, but defunding the police is not the answer.

Thank you
Concerned citizen

Sent from my iPhone