

**STATEMENT OF POLICE COMMISSIONER DERMOT SHEA
BEFORE THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY
ON THE PRELIMINARY BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2020 – 1 P.M.**

Good morning, everyone. Thank you for the opportunity to discuss the Mayor's Preliminary Budget for the 2021 Fiscal Year. It is a pleasure to be here, for the first time in my capacity as Police Commissioner, to testify before the Committee on Public Safety about the outstanding work all the members of the New York City Police Department are performing every day and night, how we are doing it and, perhaps most importantly, why we are doing it.

The "why" is easy: to keep people safe. And no matter how low we push crime, no matter how safe people actually are or how safe they feel, we will always have an obligation to do more. That is our job. And that is what our brave men and women in uniform have promised to do. In fact, that is why the NYPD exists. And so it will remain our central mission for as long as any of us is here.

Before highlighting some key budget items, I will update you on that core mission and several significant public-safety initiatives. And I would like to talk to you about policing in New York City in 2020 – what it means to us as a police department, to the 8.6 million New Yorkers who live here, to the millions more who commute in for work each day, and to the nearly 67 million more who visit our great city each year.

When you look at what has been accomplished through Neighborhood Policing in this city, through precision policing, through building trust in our communities – we are in a very good place in New York, historically. The next evolution is to do much more regarding kids – juveniles – in this city. And I am not talking, necessarily, about kids that get arrested; I am talking about all kids. And I can say with great optimism, that there is probably not a day that goes by that members of the NYPD do not meet with organizations operating around New York City – and outside the criminal justice system – that have the same goal in mind.

We have a unique opportunity right now. And it would be a real shame if we failed to capitalize on it – to really take a look at the population of kids in New York City and make certain that everything possible is being done to ensure that they do not get into trouble; that they have avenues to express themselves; that they have places to go after school, at night, or on the weekends. I challenge anyone to give me a better example of where we can invest our money, our resources, or our time. And, again, I am not just talking about the police department – I am talking about everyone.

So, 2020 presents an entirely new possibility for us. It is now feasible to think about how we can equip and enable our cops to help kids avoid a first interaction with the criminal justice system.

We know the teen years are the vulnerable years – both for the young people likely to be victimized by crimes and the young people likely to commit them. And sometimes, kids fall into both categories. From the police perspective, we can chart a course in many of these young lives – from children who flee abusive homes to wind up in the clutches of human traffickers, to kids exposed to domestic violence, homelessness, trauma and other abuse – to the same children, a few years older, turning to robbery and gang violence.

It is not uncommon for us to see kids as young as 16 with 10 or 20 prior arrests. We have to wonder if we, as a city, are doing enough to prevent these and other young people from making truly self-destructive choices. Clearly, we are not. We can do far better, both within the NYPD and in coordination with a range of city agencies, private enterprises,

and community-based organizations. And that is what the NYPD's new youth strategy is all about: Drawing on our talented, committed personnel, and on the accumulated previous encounters with these young people to make a lasting and positive difference in their lives.

In establishing and institutionalizing far closer cooperation with our law-enforcement partners and community-based service organizations, I believe we can identify the opportunities for intervention with young people early in the progression that risks turning them into criminals – or into victims. What we have to do is organize and focus all of our resources – and there are so many quality programs already in place around the five boroughs – so that a troubled kid doesn't go from 12 years old to 18 years old without us ever intervening in a life going wrong.

For us in the NYPD, the first step is to redefine what our NYPD youth officers do. We are establishing a new role in all of our precincts and Housing Bureau police service areas on the model of our Neighborhood Coordination Officers, called the Youth Coordination Officer. As the title implies, YCOs will play a critical coordinating role in maintaining awareness of troubled youth and connecting better, and sooner, with them and their families. YCOs will also coordinate with other cops and with city agencies and local community-service groups – to see what is available for kids in this city, and making sure we are marrying all of it up.

As I have previously outlined, there are three groups of young people we have to reach:

First: those who are already far along on the path to career criminality. As it is currently set up, the criminal justice system alone does not do enough to deter them, or to help them, either. Our YCOs will be fully conversant with these most-troubled youth, helping to guide the appropriate criminal sanctions and social-service interventions in each case.

Second: those who are beginning to drift into criminal activity – shoplifting, stealing from other kids on the street, brawling with rival groups, and committing other, mostly-petty crimes. For these kids, we have to bring the full capacities of our social-support and -service networks into play. The YCOs will be the nexus of this effort, identifying the kids on the cusp of crime, finding the right programs, and making the critical connections.

Third: the large majority of young people who aren't committing crimes at all. In fact, some of them might even end up as victims. We, of course, should be engaging with them, as well, because it is absolutely the right thing to do.

We are determined to breathe new life into existing programs all across the city, and to help establish new ones. We envision our new YCOs as the force multipliers who bring people together, in every neighborhood. It is essential for everyone to come to the table and lock arms.

That said, there is clearly no cookie-cutter answer to anything in our line of work. But the renewed focus on our city's young people is part of our evolution now – as a police department and as a city. And whatever we do, whatever approach we take, it has to always be about all of us sharing that responsibility, strengthening relationships, and building trust – working together to reduce crime and violence. And when these things are happening together, we are building the bridge between the public's safety and the public's trust.

Let me be clear: We can do this. The NYPD can do this – but only with the rest of the city's continued – and increased – support. The police and the public turning a professional relationship into a true partnership is already fundamentally changing law enforcement, and it is a model for the rest of the nation, quite frankly. Our Neighborhood Policing crime-fighting philosophy has helped New York buck the crime trends seen in other large American cities, and enabled us to set the standard for effective and efficient policing in this country.

Clearly, though, we are far from finished. Some historical context:

As many of you remember during the 1970s, '80s, and '90s, there were people in New York City who believed we would never get to where we are today. They believed that high-crime and sustained fear while walking down the street was just the way it was, and always would be. In some neighborhoods, violent crime was a daily occurrence.

In the first half of 1993, for example, in the 5.5-square miles of the 75th Precinct – East New York and Cypress Hills in Brooklyn – someone was killed there an average of once every 63 hours. And that occurred even as brave, dedicated NYPD cops took violent criminals and illegal guns off the streets every single night.

Instead of throwing their hands in the air, however, our police officers – your cops – refused to believe there was nothing to be done about the state of things. They refused to accept that life in our city could not change for the better. They knew that reversing the decades-long trend of rising crime and violence would take time, and they knew the NYPD could not do it alone.

At that time, starting to reclaim our neighborhoods required the coordinated efforts of the entire police department, along with – ultimately – the full and willing partnership of all the people we serve. And where it took us two decades later was categorically historic: the lowest levels of crime in three generations.

The last three years in a row, in fact – 2017, 2018, and 2019 – saw fewer than 800 shooting incidents in a city of nearly 9 million people. Prior to that in the modern era, the number of shootings in New York City never fell below 1,000. And although shootings rose by 22 incidents in 2019, they were still down by 332 incidents – or 29.6 percent – from 2013.

Make no mistake: The past six years were a time of generally declining crime – with a 14.5 percent reduction in all index crimes, led by a 30.2 percent drop in robbery, and a 38.4 percent decline in burglary. In those 6 years, arrests were also down 46.6 percent and criminal summonses were down nearly 80 percent. We have clearly managed to keep crime falling steadily while dramatically reducing the enforcement footprint in the city. And New York has easily sustained its ranking as the city with the lowest overall index crime rate among the 20 largest cities in the nation.

As we made our way through the last year – and with crime in New York City reduced significantly compared to decades ago – a large number of opinion leaders, I would say, adopted the view that with crime down, there was no need for all of our law-enforcement activity. And that viewpoint, now, is significantly hampering our ability to keep people safe. We are currently facing assaults on much of the technology we use to home in on the real drivers of crime and violence in New York City – tools that we use professionally, fairly, and constitutionally to find justice for victims by focusing with great precision on the serious crimes and the serious offenders, who make up a relatively small percentage of the population.

For one, facial recognition is a hugely-valuable tool in countering robberies, hate crimes, sexual assaults, shootings, and other violence on the streets. Given the scale of both city-owned and privately-owned security cameras, the images of robbers and shooters are frequently captured on video. Our ability to compare these images to legally-acquired mug shots of perpetrators from past crimes has taken our investigations to a new, greater level.

Any facial-recognition match is vetted by trained investigators with the NYPD Facial Identification Section before it is forwarded to an investigating detective. And a facial-recognition match, by itself, is never grounds to arrest a person or authorize a search warrant. It is merely a lead. A detective following that lead must establish, with other corroborating evidence, that the subject of the investigation is, in fact, the perpetrator.

Let me emphasize: The NYPD does not misuse this technology. We do not use it to identify participants in political protests. We do not surveil passersby in the general population, as is reportedly done in other, less-democratic countries. We do not even use facial recognition to identify people wanted on warrants – we use it to match the images of people shown on video committing crimes to images of people in mug shot databases who have committed past crimes.

As in the case of facial recognition, the NYPD has been erroneously charged with misusing the local DNA database. The database – which is managed and maintained by the city's Office of the Chief Medical Examiner – is used only to compare suspect DNA to crime scene DNA, and DNA from one crime scene to DNA from other crime scenes, in order to match or exclude suspects in cases for which crime scene DNA is available. The DNA profiles in the database are untouched, except when a match is found between crime scene evidence from a rape case, for instance, and a suspect.

DNA objectively distinguishes unique individual identities. Unless their DNA is matched to crime scene DNA in a given case, people whose DNA samples are included in the database are at no risk of being subject to law enforcement inquiry. And, let me be clear: The NYPD knows of no person who has ever been falsely convicted, indicted, or even arrested because of evidence from the New York City DNA database. On the other hand, prospective suspects in rapes, murders, and other crimes have been routinely excluded from investigations on the basis of DNA, sparing them police inquiries and possible interrogations.

Although critics have suggested the NYPD is routinely collecting huge volumes of DNA samples from arrestees, the database currently contains about 30,000 suspect DNA exemplars, compared with 1.79 million arrests in the past years. Most of the samples have been taken from suspects during active investigations of serious crimes. And, in response to concerns about the duration of time samples are maintained in the database, the NYPD will be auditing the database and recommending that the OCME remove exemplars that are no longer needed in active investigations.

As for the NYPD's Criminal Group Database, referred to by some as the gang database: We maintain a collection of about 550 street-crime gangs and crews. I can tell you with certainty that 91 percent of the database entries have been arrested for at least one serious felony. Across the list, entrants average 12 arrests, including an average of 5.7 felony arrests. They have been linked to more than 700 murders and 20,000 robberies. Let me repeat that: 20,000 cases of stealing something from another person using some level of force, and more than 700 lives ended.

I will be blunt – it would be grossly irresponsible for the NYPD to fail to monitor these groups, who are among the principal purveyors of violent crime in New York City. The entry process to the database is closely controlled. Most police officers are not authorized to recommend new entries. Only field intelligence officers, who track criminal activity in each precinct, and other gang experts may make these recommendations, based their detailed knowledge of on-the-ground situations. They submit supporting documentation, which is reviewed by supervisors with gang expertise. The oversight structure then ensures that multiple gang experts agree on every database entry. Further, the NYPD systematically culls the database to remove the names of people who may have aged out of gang activity or have had no negative contacts with police in three years. There are now approximately 18,300 names in the database, compared to 35,000 in 2014. Only 2.7 percent are currently under the age of 18; the average age of all entries is 27.

Importantly, no NYCHA official, landlord, or prospective employer has access to any name in the database. Federal immigration agents are likewise locked out. And critics cannot cite a single instance of anyone being denied housing or a job, or being subject to immigration enforcement on the basis of the NYPD gang database – mere entry into which has never been grounds for arrest or any other type of enforcement action.

In my opinion, an entrenched street gang spreading violence and fear throughout a community is just about the worst thing that could happen to a neighborhood. Do we really want our police to begin at square one every time there is an act of gang violence? Surely it is far better that professional investigators already know the likely perpetrators of a gang shooting – perpetrators, who themselves, are now at grave risk of retaliation from an opposing group. Knowledge of members is essential to any effort to intercede with gang culture, and to pull young men out of criminal life before they are arrested or killed.

As I hope I have made clear, these investigative resources are centrally important to the NYPD's ongoing enforcement efforts. As used by the NYPD, they do not represent a threat to civil liberties. They do, however, represent a marked advance from many of the older methods of investigating crime, such as eyewitness identifications and fingerprints. I trust we can agree to preserve these essential modern-policing techniques so that the hardworking members of the NYPD can continue to preserve public safety throughout New York City.

So far in 2020, we are seeing increases in crime across multiple categories which, unfortunately, reinforces what we already knew. I am on record as saying that I believe these increases are tied to the criminal-justice reforms that took effect in January, and were already showing signs of cause-and-effect in the fall of 2019. We saw momentum building in January, and now we are through February and into March. And I will tell you that the second complete month of data sharpens our focus on what our response as a police department must be. We are identifying precincts with the most

drastic increases in crime, and will use traditional redeployment of personnel coupled with non-traditional deployment. And we will allocate additional overtime for these necessary steps, as well.

We recognize the challenges we are facing, and we are addressing them. Our enhanced technological capabilities are some of the reasons that is possible. They have helped us better focus our enforcement efforts on the real drivers of serious crime. Indeed, to a large extent, precision policing depends on our ability to effectively leverage technology, specifically in the areas of robbery, burglary, and auto theft. We call these “pattern crimes” because they are frequently committed by chronic recidivists who often use identifiable methods that link the suspects to several or more other offenses of the same type.

I would urge members of the City Council to maintain a sense of proportion about the technological resources the NYPD uses to fight both pattern crimes and shootings – the most prominent of which are the tools I mentioned earlier: facial recognition, the local DNA database, and the gang database. Each has brought greater precision, accuracy, and efficiency to our investigations of serious crime. I can tell you that in any time of rising crime, the last thing a police department needs is to have interference with the tools we use to conduct such investigations. Simply put: The police need tools to do our jobs. We need tools to effectively and efficiently keep people safe. And that goes for all aspects of our work: the uniformed men and women on patrol answering calls for service, the seasoned detectives knocking on doors and tracking down every possible lead, and the investigators and analysts working behind the scenes to pinpoint patterns and predict retaliatory violence. I’ll say again – and I’ll be emphatic: Investigative resources are centrally important to all of the NYPD’s enforcement efforts and, ultimately, to our effectiveness.

Turning to budgetary issues, the NYPD plans to apply again for, and to obtain, federal assistance to protect members of the public and critical infrastructure, including the Financial District, the transit system, bridges, tunnels, and ports.

On February 14, 2020, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced the Federal Fiscal Year 2020 Notice of Funding Opportunities for the Homeland Security grants to assist states, urban areas, and others with their preparedness efforts. The NYPD has already begun the process of preparing the applications, which are due on April 15, 2020. It is anticipated that these grants will be awarded no later than September 30, 2020.

Historically, the federal Homeland Security funds have bought us a lot, including our Bomb Squad’s Total Containment Vessel – the rolling vault that allowed the NYPD to remove the live pressure-cooker bomb planted on a street in Chelsea, and some of the 16 pipe bombs mailed to various recipients throughout New York and the country. The money also funds our Vapor Wake dogs that patrol large-scale events searching for hidden explosives, and our active-shooter training that hones the tactical skills of thousands of officers who might one day have to face a machine-gun-wielding attacker in a crowded concert venue or a school.

These funds also allow the NYPD to hire Intelligence Research Specialists, deploy officers to the transit system and other strategic locations, citywide, based on intelligence; and to train officers to respond to chemical, ordnance, biological, and radiological threats or incidents. The NYPD uses federal funds to purchase personal protective equipment for uniformed members of the service, and to purchase other critical equipment that enhances our ability to protect New Yorkers and vital transportation and port infrastructure. In addition, these funds have allowed us to develop and sustain our sensor- and information-technology centerpiece known as the Domain Awareness System, or DAS, which supports the police department’s counterterrorism mission.

On February 10, 2020, the President’s Budget for Federal Fiscal Year 2021 was released, which reflects significant decreases for State and Local grants for first responders under the federal Homeland Security Grant Preparedness grants. The budget proposes a national funding level for the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) of only \$426 million, after being funded at \$665 million in Federal Fiscal Year 2020 – or a 36 percent reduction.

The State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) proposed amount is \$332 million, i.e. a reduction of 41 percent from the prior-year amount of \$560 million. The Transit and Port Security grant proposed amounts are reduced from \$100 million to \$36 million, or by 64 percent each.

Although we are undoubtedly the safest of all large cities of comparable size in the country, we clearly remain the nation's top terror target. New York City has been the target of approximately 30 terror plots since the devastating attacks of September 11, 2001 – plans that have included a would-be suicide-bomber who detonated a homemade explosive device in a subway passageway beneath Times Square; a fatal truck attack on pedestrians and bicyclists along the West Side Highway; plans to place bombs among festive crowds watching July 4th fireworks; and a plot to capture on video the beheading of a woman in Manhattan. While we must be at the top of our game every single minute of every single day, we are acutely aware that those who wish us harm need only to be lucky once.

Regarding the Preliminary Budget and its impact on the NYPD: The NYPD's Fiscal Year 2021 City Tax Levy Expense Budget is \$5.3 billion. The vast majority of this – 92 percent – is allocated for personnel costs.

As part of the November 2019 Financial Plan, the NYPD received additional funds for 250 civilian personnel and technology upgrades to allow the police department to better comply with the recent changes in the state criminal-justice reform laws (bail reform, desk appearance ticket procedures, and discovery). Complying with these new laws requires an enormous amount of new funding – none of it from the state – plus a massive retooling of NYPD practices, several important technology upgrades, and the hiring of hundreds of additional personnel across several areas of the department. These new funds will help pay for such things as new portals to better share information with district attorneys, and the hiring of criminalists and others to more quickly produce case materials and handle the increased paperwork burden. The expense funding totaled \$24.7 million in fiscal year 2020, and \$20.7 million in fiscal year 2021 and the out-years. This is in addition to capital funding provided during the Adopted Capital Commitment Plan (released in October 25, 2019): The NYPD received \$28 million for crime lab technology upgrades and \$10 million for legal technology to better allow for compliance with the discovery law changes.

The NYPD's Preliminary Capital Budget contains \$1.64 billion for Fiscal Years 2020 through 2024. Aside from the funding provided in October, the department received additional funds for the following:

- 137 Centre Street Renovation – \$18.6 million for building improvements to this space, which currently houses the Manhattan Special Victims Squad and will include additional units to minimize the department's lease footprint;
- ARGUS camera expansion – \$3.6 million to install additional cameras in areas that might be the scene of hate crimes;
- 116th Precinct Station House – an additional \$17.2 million was provided for the increased costs of construction based on the most recent bids. Construction for this facility is projected to begin in spring 2020.

Across the NYPD, we will continue to leverage every tool available to us to keep New York City safe, including the use of new and innovative technology. We are keenly focused on such advances, and how they can be applied to fighting crime, creating safer and more-efficient ways for police officers to do their jobs, and contributing to the important work of building trust and strengthening relationships throughout the five boroughs.

As we take Neighborhood Policing to the next level by way of our invigorated youth strategy – and through all of the remarkable changes we are undertaking in the NYPD – we have the Mayor's full support, and have benefitted greatly from the City Council's support, as well. I thank you for your ongoing partnership, and for everything you do to help us build a more effective and efficient NYPD – always with officer safety in mind. New York needs even more of our ideas, and all of our actions – now. And that goes for the entire public safety spectrum – from traditional crime to terrorism, to

the seedbed-activities that can draw young people down paths of criminality. This is our mission, and we owe every New Yorker nothing but our best efforts.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify this afternoon, and I am happy now to take your questions.

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BILL DE BLASIO
MAYOR

CIVILIAN COMPLAINT REVIEW BOARD
100 CHURCH STREET 10th FLOOR
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10007 ♦ TELEPHONE (212) 912-7235
www.nyc.gov/ccrb



FREDERICK DAVIE
CHAIR

**Full Testimony of Rev. Frederick Davie, Chair of the Civilian Complaint Review Board
before the Public Safety Committee of the New York City Council**

March 4, 2020

Chairperson Richards, members of the Public Safety Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. I am Rev. Frederick Davie, Chair of the Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB). I am joined by Jonathan Darche, our Executive Director.

There have been several significant developments for the CCRB over the past year, including the CCRB's prosecution of Daniel Pantaleo for the killing of Eric Garner and Mr. Pantaleo's subsequent termination from the New York City Police Department (NYPD), November's successful ballot initiative resulting in several changes to the New York City Charter that have an impact on the CCRB's work, the completion of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the CCRB and the NYPD to help improve the CCRB's access to Body-Worn Camera (BWC) footage, and the launch of the Agency's Civilian Assistance Unit (CAU), which seeks to provide our complainants with assistance and connection to needed city services. In addition, in 2019, the CCRB received 4,959 complaints in its jurisdiction – the highest number of complaints received since 2013, and a 4.5% increase over last year's 4,745. CCRB's complaints have risen nearly 16% since 2016, a rise that is at least partly attributable to the Agency's recent focus on community outreach and public education.

Each of these turns of events have had considerable influence on the practice of police accountability at the CCRB.

The Pantaleo trial, which took place in spring of last year, highlights how vital independent oversight and civilian prosecutions are for police accountability. During the trial last year, the CCRB's Administrative Prosecution Unit (APU) attorneys showed video evidence initially recorded on a cell phone that clearly showed Mr. Pantaleo's use of a prohibited chokehold on Mr. Garner. APU prosecutors presented this and other evidence at trial that led NYPD Deputy Commissioner of Trials Rosemarie Maldonado to issue a guilty verdict and recommend Pantaleo's termination from the Department. Former Police Commissioner James P. O'Neill, concurring with Maldonado, subsequently terminated Pantaleo. After a grand jury previously declined to indict Pantaleo and the federal government announced that it would not file charges,

the administrative proceeding was means of securing some semblance of justice for the death of Eric Garner.

On November 5, 2019, New Yorkers voted to implement a set of Charter changes, grouped together under Ballot Question 2, that make the disciplinary process more transparent, strengthen the CCRB's oversight capabilities, and improve Agency efficiency. The CCRB's Board structure will change, as we will have one member appointed by the Public Advocate, and my position, that of Board Chair, will be jointly appointed by the Mayor and the Speaker of the City Council. The City Council will also have the power to appoint CCRB members, rather than designate members subject to Mayoral approval. Among other changes are: a requirement for the Police Commissioner to provide written explanations for deviations from the Board's disciplinary recommendations; expanding the CCRB's jurisdiction to include false official statements made to the CCRB; and a linking the CCRB's headcount to 0.65% of the NYPD's uniformed officer headcount.

The CCRB has been in close communication with the city's Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to determine exactly how many additional staff members this will mean for the Agency. At the close of FY2019, the CCRB's authorized headcount was raised by almost 16% from 183 to 212 people, and as a result of the revised Charter language, another 17 staff members were added in the January Plan. While the Charter guarantees headcount, there are no specific funding levels attached to that headcount, and so we have worked closely with OMB to determine what these new personnel lines will be. Similarly, we continue to discuss with OMB what level of support is available for infrastructure items like work space, computers, desks, external training modules, and office network access (all covered under the budget categories other than Personnel Services), specific funding for which is also not guaranteed by the new Charter language.

In 2019, 58% of the CCRB's fully investigated complaints featured video evidence. Nearly 60% of these cases with video featured BWC footage, and 74% of the cases involving BWC evidence are closed "on the merits" – in other words, as substantiated, exonerated, or unfounded – because the facts of these cases are more clearly determined. In complaints with no video evidence, only 40% are closed on the merits. This shows how vital BWC evidence is to CCRB's investigations. This also highlights the importance of the MOU between the CCRB and the NYPD on how to access BWC recordings. Once this new protocol goes into effect, CCRB investigators will be able to search for BWC footage in collaboration with NYPD staff, view unredacted footage and take notes on content, and request for download the sections of video that are relevant to the investigation and prosecution of the allegations of misconduct in the case.

As the number of complaints involving BWC footage continues to rise, the CCRB is naturally concerned with how increasing electronic storage of this crucial evidence impacts the Agency's budget. In 2017, the year the BWC program launched, the CCRB received 158 BWC video files of roughly 37 gigabytes. In 2019, the CCRB received nearly 8,000 BWC video files of roughly 1.3 *terabytes* – a 3,385% increase. To date, video footage occupies more than 7.5 *terabytes* of

space. We are working with both OMB and the city's Department of Information Technology and Telecommunication (DOITT) to adapt the CCRB's technology infrastructure to the BWC program. The CCRB's technology infrastructure is outmoded and over 25 years old.

CCRB added training in forensic evidence analysis in order to ensure Agency staff properly utilize body worn camera footage. Forensic video analysis techniques involve intensive transcription notations and multiple viewings of videos, increasing the length of time it can take to close all investigations – not just those with video. Investigators must identify each of the individuals in video footage to identify witnesses, and take detailed notes as to the statements made and events that occur, often requiring frame-by-frame review. Among the Agency's other training initiatives are proposed and ongoing modules on leadership and implicit bias, advanced interview skills – including Forensic Experiential Trauma Interviewing (FETI), a particular concern as the Agency investigates sexual misconduct allegations – and advanced trial skills for new prosecutors. The influx of video evidence and new personnel, however, means that there is a need for additional training in these, and other, areas.

Sexual misconduct, an allegation category the CCRB took on in February 2018, was one of the reasons the Agency worked to create a Civilian Assistance Unit (CAU). This innovative unit will support complainants by assisting them in understanding and navigating the investigatory and disciplinary processes and provide complainants with connections to critical city resources like housing assistance and mental health services. Advocates for at-risk populations often cite the fact that the CCRB's process is too difficult for their members to navigate; members of the public at board meetings often speak about the fact that the CCRB's process is too difficult and emotionally taxing; and investigators and prosecutors anecdotally report that witnesses claim that the process causes them emotional stress and they decline to follow through with their complaint. The CAU will pair complainants with social workers and counselors who help them mitigate post-event trauma and aid them in navigating New York's network of support services in a meaningful way.

The CCRB's complainants come from all communities, including some of the most vulnerable populations. These partnerships are building toward improvements in how the CCRB interacts with members of various communities in New York City. One such initiative is the CCRB Youth Advisory Council (YAC). Initially launched in winter of 2018, the YAC is a working committee made up of young leaders, ages 10-24, who are committed to criminal justice issues and improving police-community relations. The YAC meets quarterly, advising CCRB staff on how to engage young New Yorkers and serving as ambassadors to their communities about the Agency. The YAC also served as part of the planning committee for the CCRB's spring 2019 event, "Speak Up, Speak Out: A Youth Summit on Policing in NYC," the CCRB's first ever summit focused exclusively on youth, and is currently working on the final stages of planning for our April 1 event. During this event, the CCRB will release a report on NYPD interactions with

young people in New York and debut a Public Service Announcement aimed at helping local youth understand what the CCRB is.

As part of its oversight and accountability work under its Charter mandate, the CCRB engages in a wide variety of public awareness efforts like this. Since the beginning of the current Administration, the CCRB's Outreach Unit has expanded significantly both in the size of its staff and in its baseline funding. The Unit has diligently focused on reaching larger audiences and building relationships with community stakeholders, service providers, elected officials, and advocates. Furthermore, the CCRB constructed a full public education campaign to inform thousands of New Yorkers about the Right to Know Act (RTKA), a law that went into effect on October 19, 2018 and mandates that NYPD officers provide members of the public who have been involved in a police encounter with a business card that directs civilians to where they can comment or complain about an encounter with an officer. CCRB staff created RTKA education materials and distributed these resources outside of subway stations, schools and at street festivals in all five boroughs. However, the Agency continues to face challenges regarding public awareness of the CCRB and its powers and resources. We know that this awareness is extremely consequential. While many members of the public who encounter our Outreach staff continue to report a previous lack of knowledge of the Agency, we'll continue to work with other City agencies to discuss ways to spread public awareness of the CCRB.

With the support of the Administration and the Council, the Agency continues to be better able to accomplish its mission, to provide strong, effective, and independent civilian oversight for the New York City Police Department, but there is far more to be done. I am confident that with your help, the CCRB will continue to flourish, improve, and lead the way in civilian oversight nationally. Thank you for your time and continued support.



**Girls for Gender Equity Testimony for the New York City Council
Committee on Public Safety – Preliminary Budget Hearing**

Delivered by Ashley C. Sawyer, Esq.
Director of Policy and Government Relations

March 4, 2020

Good afternoon Chair Richards and Committee Members. My testimony will focus on two key points **(1) the need to reduce the contact that youth of color have with the New York City Police Department (NYPD) including the School Safety Division (SSD) by putting a halt to the proposed Youth Coordination Plan, and (2) the alarming growth in the City's spending on criminalization of girls of color.** Girls for Gender Equity (GGE) is a 17 year old, Brooklyn-based youth development and policy advocacy organization committed to removing systemic barriers which prevent girls, including cisgender and transgender girls and non-binary youth of color from living self-determined lives. GGE challenges structural forces, including racism, sexism, transphobia, homophobia, and economic inequity, which constrict the freedom, full expression, and rights of transgender and cisgender girls, women of color, and gender non-conforming youth of color.

Time and time again, students, community, education experts, and advocates have made clear that young people do not need police to serve as counselors or aides to them, instead, this city must make real investments in building positive school climate where students have ample (non-law enforcement) staff, to assist them through their growth and maturation, restorative practices, and the resources to meet their educational, mental health, and emotional needs. Prior to coming to GGE, I worked with and on behalf of young people, particularly youth of color who had been affected by the juvenile and criminal legal systems in New York. I was an attorney who represented young people in several school suspension hearings that involved the School Safety Division criminalizing normal adolescent behavior.¹ In one instance,

¹ We use the term "criminalization" to describe the patterns and practices which mirror a carceral, prison-like environment within schools and send the message to students, that they are harmful or dangerous. Often criminalization shows up through constantly searching students or sending them through metal detectors, under the suspicion that they are carrying weapons, assigning law enforcement agents to monitor their halls, and arresting students in school. Criminalization impedes learning and does more harm than good. Worse, it diverts precious resources away from strategies that have the potential to transform schools. Advancement Project, Alliance for Education in Schools, Dignity in Schools, & NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund <http://dignityinschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Police-In-Schools-2018-FINAL.pdf>, Brea L. Perry & Edward W. Morris, Suspending Progress: Collateral Consequences of Exclusionary Punishment in Schools, <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0003122414556308> (2014), Ashley C. Sawyer, *Healing, Not Metal Detectors Will Dismantle the*

that I have shared before this body previously, I represented a gender non-conforming, queer, Black student who was physically dragged by their arms, after being tackled by school safety agents for cursing at a teacher from a neighboring school. Consistently, the School Safety Division and the NYPD when called into schools, has resulted in students facing juvenile or criminal court charges that will negatively impact their relationship to the academic environment, personal safety, and dignity. The NYPD's presence has exacerbated racial disparities in school discipline, for example during the 2018-2019 school year, there were 4,560 police interventions targeting girls in New York City public schools reported by the NYPD through the Student Safety Act – **Black girls represented 57% of all interventions, while representing only 25% of all girls.** This is not only alarming, but a reflection of the ways that the City's most harmful and racially discriminatory policing practices extend to students in schools. The MOU that went into effect this school year has thus far *not* impacted total NYPD interventions (4,589 to 4,539 year to year change). That reform was primarily focused on arrests, but as arrests dropped, disproportionality for Black girls (when compared to all girls in NYC schools) got worse – jumping from representing 65% of all girls arrested in school to 74%. We also see this in cases of reported stop and frisks, as citywide stops grew 22%, stops experienced by Black girls *grew* 35%.

We are also calling for a halt to the Youth Coordination Plan because of the lack of accountability for sexual violence and sexual harassment at the hands of law enforcement. GGE has been and continues to be a leader in the work to end gender-based violence, including sexual harassment and sexual abuse for close to two decades.² We have provided programming for cisgender and transgender girls and survivors for more than 15 years.³ A young person from one of GGE's programs has previously testified before City Council about the leering and uncomfortable flirting that she and her classmates received at the hands of members of the SSD. The experience of police sexual misconduct is often an ignored part of the conversation about school policing, but it is one for which GGE will remain vigilant, and continue to demand significant changes to budget allocations, including demands to stop stationing police, SSD or otherwise, in and around schools serving youth of color.

We thank the New York City Council for the opportunity to share our work and look forward to continued collaboration as we work together to support the well-being and self-determination of girls of color in New York.

School-to-Prison Pipeline, Juvenile Justice Information Exchange,

<https://jje.org/2018/01/10/healing-not-metal-detectors-will-dismantle-the-school-to-prison-pipeline-for-good/>

² <https://www.ggenyc.org/2018/06/the-me-too-movement-lives-at-girls-for-gender-equity-a-joint-letter/>

³ https://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/music/r-kelly-case-spotlights-abuse-of-girls-in-the-era-of-metoo/2019/03/18/84d1f1e6-4933-11e9-8cfc-2c5d0999c21e_story.html?hpid=hp_hp-top-table-main-r-kelly%3Ahomepage%2Ft%3Ametoo&hpid=hp_hp-top-table-main-r-kelly%3Ahomepage%2Ft%3Ametoo&utm_term=.97affa3baf02 (GGE's Sisters In Strength program featured in Washington Post, March 18, 2019).



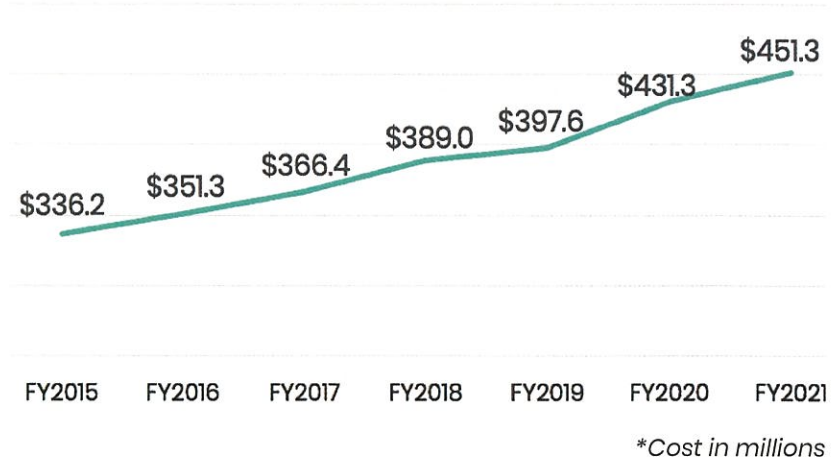
THE RISING COST OF SCHOOL POLICING

Tracking Public Spending on the School Safety Division of the NYPD, January 2020

School Safety Division Preliminary Budgets

Six Years of Growth:

From the time Mayor de Blasio presented his first Preliminary Budget in 2014 until this month's Fiscal Year 2021 (FY2021) Preliminary Budget announcement, the cost of sustaining the School Safety Division (SSD) of the NYPD grew by over \$115 million.

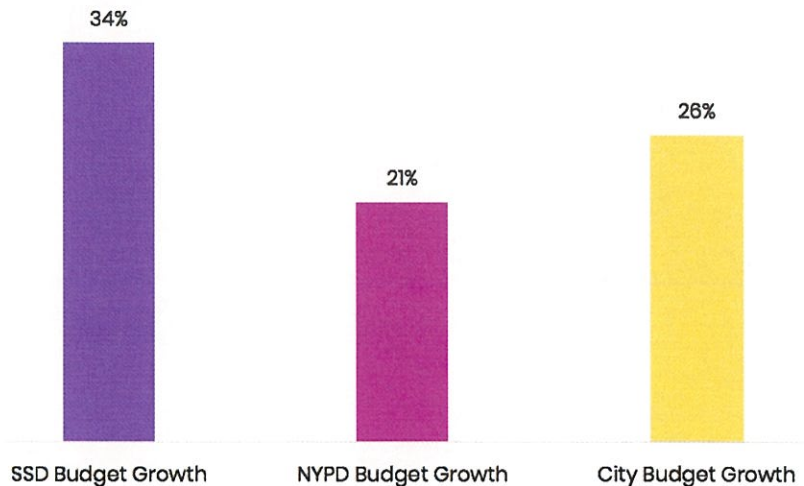


Outpacing City Spending:

In the newly proposed preliminary budget, **the cost of the SSD amounts to \$451 million, the most expensive it has ever been.**

Importantly, the ballooning cost of the SSD has outpaced the growth of both the NYPD and the City budget as a whole.

% Growth FY2015 to FY2021



Conflicting Values:

GGE strongly opposes the year-after-year expansion of spending on school policing. When compared to last year's Preliminary Budget, the FY2021 Estimates set the SSD to spend \$20 million more, in direct contradiction to the City's commitment to move to citywide implementation of restorative practices.



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p. 646 386 3100
f. 212 397 0985
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**Center for Court Innovation Testimony
New York City Council
Committee on Public Safety
Preliminary Budget Hearing
March 4, 2020**

Good afternoon Chair Richards and esteemed members of the City Council. My name is Shane Correia and I am the Deputy Director of Strategic Partnerships at the Center for Court Innovation (“Center”). Thank you for the opportunity to speak today.

I am here to request Council’s support as the Center seeks to renew its work with justice system involved New Yorkers in early diversion, youth and adult alternatives-to-incarceration, and mental health. In addition, the Center is seeking much needed expansion funds so that it can adequately serve more individuals given the changes in the justice system in 2019, namely the closure of Rikers Island, and in response to the justice reforms that went into effect at the beginning of this year. We are also proposing new programming to address persistent public safety issues in our communities, including more intensive mental health support for frequent repeat offenders and expansion of our intimate partner violence prevention work.

Regarding renewal, our City Council funded work has provided individuals with meaningful off-ramps from a cycle of poverty and recidivism to real integration back into their communities. To

continue to accomplish this work, we seek continuation funding for our core Citywide Speaker request, our pre-arraignment diversion (Project Reset) programing, Driver Accountability Programming, and Brooklyn Felony Alternatives to Incarceration program.

We also seek new funding. Project Reset (“Reset”) specifically permits New Yorkers to resolve low-level misdemeanors without ever setting foot in a court. The case disappears from the criminal justice system as a declined-to-prosecute, avoiding many of the collateral consequences associated with a prosecuted case. Our current funded capacity can serve roughly 13,000 individuals, but with changes in legislation and prosecutorial policy, we project nearly 19,000 referrals. Additionally, Reset engages individuals before they get to court, but due to distrust, roughly half of eligible individuals do not provide contact information to the police, but do show up to court. To respond to this reality, we propose piloting of “Reset at Arraignment.” We want to pilot this program in the Bronx and Brooklyn so that cases can be quickly disposed of in order to safeguard individuals from the myriad consequences of having a pending case.

The Center also proposes a pilot mental health court part that will help address the needs of individuals with three or more arrests within a year, or more than thirty convictions. Individuals with mental health needs who frequently come into the justice system often come before multiple judges and receive no support tailored to their underlying issue. We wish to merge the power of judicial sanctions with mental health care, so that when a person comes back to court, they are seeing the same judge and the same clinical team that is familiar with the underlying issues. We also have submitted several applications to permit us to increase mental health access in the outer boroughs where demand outstrips our current capacity. We therefore request Council to expand funding available under the Mental Health Initiatives for Vulnerable Populations, and for Court-Involved Youth.

We also hope to offer the same cutting edge and effective central court services we offer in Brooklyn, Bronx, and Manhattan in Staten Island by creating a Staten Island Justice Initiatives program. This program will have a court presence, giving judges an array of alternative mandate options and thereby increasing the use of these alternatives over jail placement. Defendants, however, will also be engaged nearby in a community environment setting with desirable pro-social programming, similar to the Center's work in Brownsville, and as is forthcoming in Far Rockaway.

Next, we request that Council to expand our Intimate Partner Gun Violence Prevention model that we operate in Cure Violence sites throughout the City to a boroughwide pilot in the Bronx. Domestic Violence accounts for 1 in every 5 homicides according to the NYC Domestic Violence Task Force. We want to focus programming on those who are likely to be impacted by such violence with direct community-based outreach. Rather than centralize resources in a single location that individuals must come to, we want to go directly to the communities where violence is most prevalent and work to support victims, and batterers, directly with services – similar to how the effective Cure Violence addresses gun violence by going to the source.

Finally, we still have a jail in our Midtown Community Court. Thanks to bold changes in our justice system, we thankfully have less use for several of the holding cells. We ask for support to our capital request to change those cells into space that can be used to improve community well-being and promote healing. We have secured the commitments of the Museum of Modern Art and other community groups to fill that space with programming, but we need City Council's assistance to realize its full potential.

The City Council's support has been invaluable to our work in improving public safety and building trust in the justice system. We respectfully urge you to continue to support our work and thank you again for the opportunity to speak.

New York City Council's Investment in the Center for Court Innovation Supports Youth Development, Reentry, Homelessness Prevention, and Mental Health Services

Selected Results of Citywide Speaker Initiative Funding in FY19*

Harlem Community Justice Center

197 reentry court hearings held

Midtown Community Court

110 hours of group and individual therapy and support

Citywide

Training Institute

22 trainings provided

Youth Justice Board

20 youth met weekly for a year to learn about and advocate for policy reform

Access to Justice

50 community members equipped with information about their rights

Staten Island

Staten Island Justice Center

14 youth trained to facilitate youth court hearings



Center for Court Innovation

Bronx Child Trauma Support

66 families engaged in therapy after being victims of violent crimes

Bronx Community Solutions

200 Driving While Intoxicated screenings and assessments completed

Save Our Streets (S.O.S.) South Bronx

10 youth engaged in S.O.S. Basketball Clinic

Queens Youth Justice Center

26 youth engaged in justice trainings and as youth court members

Brownsville Community Justice Center

25 events and rehabilitations made public spaces safer

Neighbors in Action

50 community residents received walk-in services

Red Hook Community Justice Center

150 youth court service learning hours

*Outcomes in FY20 and FY21 may differ based on funding allocations. The Center serves close to 77,000 New Yorkers each year.

The Center seeks a continuation of its \$500,000 Citywide Speaker Initiative funding for FY21. For more information, contact Shane Correia at correias@courtinnovation.org.



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p. 646 386 3100
f. 212 397 0985
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Center for Court Innovation Major Proposal Summaries

- **Center Core-Ask: #91832 - \$500,000** This is an application to support the continuation of our alternative-to-incarceration, youth-diversion, and access to justice programs across all five boroughs in New York City. The Council's support allows us to serve tens of thousands of New Yorkers with mental health services, family development, youth empowerment, workforce development, and housing, legal, immigration and employment resource services. Our goal continues to be improving safety, reducing incarceration, expanding access to community resources and enhancing public trust in government to make New York City stronger, fairer, and safer for all.
- **Project Reset: #91917 - \$5,232,579** This proposal will support Project Reset in continuing to divert New Yorkers with misdemeanor arrests away from the court system through community-based programming. In collaboration with the District Attorney offices of the Bronx, Brooklyn, Staten Island and Queens, Project Reset is preparing to serve more New Yorkers than ever as a result of the sweeping criminal justice reform legislation that went into effect in January 2020. To ensure that Project Reset can serve all eligible individuals, this application also includes funding to expand the program footprint in Brooklyn and the Bronx, and launch a pilot to offer Reset programming at arraignment in Brooklyn and Bronx criminal courts to serve eligible individuals who were unable to be contacted prior to their court date. This pilot will provide same day programming to quickly dispose of the underlying case, and protect those who do not trust law enforcement to provide contact information - but who do show up to their arraignment - to be diverted out of the justice system and avoid the many consequences that comes from a pending case.
 - **City Council Renewal - \$710,000**
 - **Mayoral Renewal - \$2,153,674**
 - **Expansion of Reform Capacity - \$1,619,452**
 - **Reset at Arraignment Expansion - \$749,453**
- **Driver Accountability Program #91911- \$1,177,535** The Driver Accountability Program provides a constructive and restorative response to dangerous driving and works to change the risky driving behavior of people charged with driving-related offenses in criminal court. Preliminary research suggests that the program changes participant behavior and encourage safer driving. Piloted at the Red Hook Community Justice Center



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in 2015, the program has since expanded throughout Brooklyn, Bronx, Manhattan and Staten Island with funding from City Council. This application seeks funding to sustain those operations and expand into the borough of Queens as well. Funding will also be used to pilot a second tier of the program that offers a more intensive version used to respond to the most serious cases involving serious injury or death.

- **Renewal - \$951,080**
- **Queens Expansion - \$226,455**

- **Brooklyn and Bronx Felony ATI Courts #91904 - \$1,998,347** The Brooklyn and Bronx Felony ATI Courts will offer community-based interventions and rigorous judicial monitoring to felony cases (which are otherwise ineligible for drug, mental health, and domestic violence courts), that can decrease the use of jail and prison sentences and potentially lead to reduced criminal dispositions. The courts will be staffed by a team of resource coordinators and social workers who will conduct independent assessments, prepare recommendations for programming and supervision, provide referrals to community-based providers, offer ongoing case management, supervision, and compliance monitoring, and pilot new services, such as restorative justice interventions. The programs seek to significantly increase the use of ATIs and supervision offered to felony defendants and provide a model for jurisdictions across the country interested in enhancing public safety and reducing incarceration.
 - **Brooklyn Renewal & Expansion- \$1,187,696**
 - **Bronx - \$810,651**

- **Strong Starts Court Initiative #91839 - \$446,230** This proposal is for the Strong Starts Court Initiative for infants and toddlers involved in neglect petitions. Funding will support the presence of a full time Clinical Coordinator in the Manhattan and Brooklyn Family Courts, with expertise in infant mental health, the program gets all parties to meet on a monthly basis with updates to the court. Additionally, the clinician provides individualized assessments and service plans aimed at stabilizing the family and the child's placement, preventing removals and promoting family reunification wherever possible, while addressing underlying needs that range from treatment for mental health to substance use.

- **RISE - Reimagining Intimacy through Social Engagement. A Bronx Community-Based Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Prevention Program #91859- \$705,904** The



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Bronx Community-Based Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Prevention initiative is based on our RISE work throughout New York City's Cure Violence sites aimed at providing specialized services to potential victims of domestic violence who are connected to individuals who may have gun violence linkages. The pilot will work to reduce IPV violence in Bronx neighborhoods by engaging individuals who are causing abuse in voluntary programming to stop violence and change behavior, changing community norms to reduce tolerance for IPV, training credible messengers to promote healthy relationships, and providing a restorative justice process for appropriate situations. The initiative will incorporate components of Cure Violence and restorative justice models.

- **Staten Island Justice Initiatives #91872 - \$1,146,673** In 2018, the Center for Court Innovation (the Center) partnered with the Richmond County District Attorney (RCDA) to create a Strategic Action Plan that explored bringing problem-solving justice to scale in Staten Island. The study found strong support for a problem-solving justice model that could improve outcomes for defendants across the borough, deliver a wide array of social services to all Staten Island residents in need, and help improve the quality of life in targeted neighborhoods. Building on the plan's recommendations, the Center now proposes to create Staten Island Justice Initiatives, a project that would expand alternatives-to-incarceration options and include crime prevention programming geared towards the neighborhoods of St. George, Tompkinsville, and Stapleton.
- **The Family Healing Project, Reentry after Prison #91877 - \$310,000** This program uses restorative justice to reimagine reentry after prison as a whole family project. Moving away from individualized reentry models, the Family Healing Project acknowledges that for a returning citizen to be successful after release, the whole family needs to be engaged and supported. This program will facilitate restorative justice processes for the returning citizen and their family members during this crucial time of reintegration, addressing both the harms of crime and incarceration, as well as the practical challenges of navigating the conditions of parole. By strengthening connections among family, this initiative aims to decrease rates of homelessness and technical parole violations, and to offer meaningful support and healing to the entire family. Funds will be used to support program staff and provide MetroCards, stipends and food to participating families.
- **Queens Community Links #91886 - \$300,000** Queens Community Links is a comprehensive program that will serve the Queens residents, ages 18-21, held in pre-trial



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detention within the George R. Vierno Center on Riker's Island. The program will provide evidence-based programming and support services to individuals while incarcerated starting from the moment of remand, as well as to individuals during the discharge and reentry process, through the Center for Court Innovation's Queens Youth Justice Center and the Far Rockaway Community Justice Center. The underlying premise of the project acknowledges that individuals held on remand will ultimately be released into community and should receive services that start in confinement and maintain continuity once released into community.

- **Misdemeanor Mental Health Court #91892 - \$358,800** The Center for Court Innovation proposes to pilot two misdemeanor mental health courts: one at the Red Hook Community Justice Center and the other at the Midtown Community Court. Studies show that those who come into most frequent contact with the criminal justice system tend to do so for low-level offenses and often have a complex combination of substance use, mental health, and housing needs. This pilot would offer individualized sanctions to serial defendants, providing continuity of care, consistency in dispositions, and graduated outcomes and sanctions for a high-needs population. Defendants would appear before the same judge and be linked with the same social service team each time they have a new arrest. This intervention team would include a range of community-based organizations, social workers, peer support specialists, a consulting psychiatrist, and city agencies such as DHS, DOHMH and HRA.

RISE Project

While gun violence overall has decreased in New York City, the use of guns in intimate partner violence remains unchanged—and in some neighborhoods is rising. In the past, people have looked at intimate partner violence and gun violence as separate problems requiring different responses, but the fact is that neighborhoods impacted by high rates of gun violence also have the highest levels of reported domestic violence incidents.

A partnership between the Center for Court Innovation and the Mayor's Office to Prevent Gun Violence, the RISE Project is a part of the New York City's Crisis Management System anti-gun violence network and works in partnership with gun violence prevention programs throughout the city. The RISE Project seeks to break down siloes and respond to the intersection of gun violence and intimate partner violence to support healthy relationships. RISE's approach is community-centered, survivor-informed, and holistic, rooted in principles of safety, accountability, and transformative justice.

Supporting Healthy Community Norms

The RISE Project supports healthy relationship norms and the prevention of intimate partner violence at the community level through public education campaigns, community programming, and efforts focused on community healing. RISE draws on public health, community organizing and transformative justice models to create a holistic approach to violence. We provide:

- *Community workshops* on intimate partner violence and healthy relationships to local organizations, schools, and the community at large;
- *Youth programming* that provides education and intervention around dating violence and

healthy relationships at local schools and in partnership with community-based programs;

- *Community events*, such as open mics, sip 'n' paints, and yoga, to create a space for community dialogue, healing, and a focus on healthy relationships;
- *Public messaging* supporting healthy relationships through neighborhood-level media, print, and social media campaigns.

Engaging Individuals Who Cause Harm

There are few non-mandated programs for individuals who have caused harm. RISE staff focus on voluntary engagement with individuals who have caused harm, working to increase accountability and shift behaviors through:

- *Individual counseling* on a voluntary basis for individuals who are looking for support and assistance to change unhealthy behaviors and prevent violence in their intimate relationships;
- *Gender-based groups* focused on reducing and preventing violence in intimate relationships and covering issues including complex trauma, gender identity, power, and control.

Crisis Response

RISE staff are available to respond in crisis situations. This may include a brief intervention

to provide short-term safety planning, connection to resources for individuals experiencing harm, connection to services for other affected community members, and strategic community activations such as community responses, speak outs, and healing events when incidents occur.

Capacity Building

The RISE Project aims to build community capacity to prevent violence, support healthy relationship norms, and reduce tolerance for intimate partner violence through:

- *Tailored training:* RISE provides training on intimate partner violence and healthy relationships to all of the Mayor's Office to Prevent Gun Violence sites and is available to the community at large. Project staff serve as an on-site resource for strengthening the sites' response to intimate partner violence.
- *Coordination of resources:* By coordinating resources, we build connections and increase community access to domestic violence and intimate partner violence services in marginalized neighborhoods.
- *Technical assistance:* We provide assistance to anti-gun violence initiative staff who need guidance on responses to situations that arise among participants, family, or neighbors. Staff serve as neighborhood resources, working to strengthen community response to intimate partner violence.

Outcomes

In the RISE Projects first year the project engaged over 5,000 residents throughout the city. It provided over 75 trainings and workshops and participating in over 100 community events.

For More Information

Email: riseproject@courttinnovation.org

Instagram: @riseprojectnyc

Call: 646.386.4427

TESTIMONY ON BEHALF OF LOCAL 372, NYC BOARD OF EDUCATION EMPLOYEES
DISTRICT COUNCIL 37 | AFSCME
TO THE PRELIMINARY BUDGET HEARING ON PUBLIC SAFETY
MARCH 4, 2020

FOR THE RECORD

Public Safety Committee Chairman Donovan J. Richards and distinguished members of the committee, I am Donald Nesbit, Executive Vice President of Local 372 - NYC Board of Education Employees, District Council 37 - AFSCME. It is the honor of Local 372 to present this testimony on behalf of the approximate 2,600 Level-I School Crossing Guards we represent under the leadership of our President, Shaun D. Francois I.

Local 372 Level-I School Crossing Guards are often the first line of defense to improve the safety for students who walk, bicycle, or take transit to school. Student-pedestrians often face major safety traffic hazards everyday caused by double-and-triple parked cars at bus stops, in front or near the school building. Approximately 90% of School Crossing Guards are female, working daily at a 25-hour capped part-time schedule that includes early morning, lunch time and after school hours to serve 1.2 million charter, parochial, and public school children.

Currently, these workers do not get paid for snow days and certain holidays (days where the schools shut down but the City remains open), leaving their pay checks dependent on the whims of the weather. For many New Yorkers living paycheck to paycheck, including School Crossing Guards, any one unanticipated day off from work can be the difference between making ends meet and financial ruin. On top of this, School Crossing Guards are subjected to the additional uncertainty of uncontrollable weather forecasts determining whether they will earn wages that

day. A snow day just might be the determining factor as to whether a School Crossing Guard can put food on the table.

On top of the immediate, tangible concern over lost wages, this also represents an issue of equity for our members. Despite working under the New York Police Department (“NYPD”), School Crossing Guards are functionally analogous to school support staff titles working under the New York City Department of Education (“DOE”). Likewise, School Crossing Guards and DOE school support staff should also share the same privileges and pay rights. Just as DOE school support staff are currently compensated for this lost time, so too should School Crossing Guards be equally compensated. The current pay practice for Level-I School Crossing Guards is harmful to these vital workers and Local 372 respectfully requests reform to prevent School Crossing Guards from slipping through the cracks through no fault of their own.

Additionally, the role as first line of defense for students often places School Crossing Guards in a vulnerable position with no immediate assistance on hand. School Crossing Guards are at risk not only from cars veering too close, but from physical attacks from people on the street. A number of School Crossing Guards have been the victims of on-duty assaults, which is a violent felony under current law. Local 372 respectfully City funding to support the promotion of a city-wide public awareness campaign to stop the violence against School Crossing Guards.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony, your continued support and hard work on behalf of Local 372’s Level-I School Crossing Guards. I will now answer any questions you may have.



March 04, 2020

**Testimony to the City Council Committee on Public Safety
Submitted by Brandon J. Holmes, NYC Campaign Coordinator, JustLeadershipUSA**

Dear Council Member Donovan Richards and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today and your leadership on this issue. I am an organizer with JustLeadershipUSA, working on the #CLOSErikers campaign. Today I want to highlight the opportunities New York City has, but is not currently taking, to immediately invest in the types of community resources that can create safety by strengthening and stabilizing communities. We can do this, even in the face of cuts from the state, by beginning the long-overdue work of divesting from overfunded systems of law enforcement.

New York City has found pride in uplifting the values of equality, fairness and respect for its 8.5 million residents. The great reduction of the number of people in New York City jails has been a testament to these values, and to the power of grassroots advocacy. But the city's misalignment of its budget priorities still flies in the face of those values, and needs to change.

Each budget cycle, New Yorkers passionately and articulately make the case for desperately-needed funding for housing, education, libraries, healthcare, youth programs and more. In each budget cycle, they walk away with only a fraction of what is needed. Every time that happens, gaping holes widen in our social safety net, and law enforcement agencies are once again relied upon to respond to challenges they will never be equipped to address - challenges of public health, poverty, and inequality.

This is a choice, and our electeds have the power to make a different choice. The choices that created this misalignment in budget priorities have had serious and sometimes deadly consequences. While we are well aware that the State and Federal government have contributed to funding gaps, the truth is that New York City has the resources to address many of the needs that currently go unmet. With vision and political courage, we can move those resources to where they are truly needed. **The Mayor and City Council will need to decide that our city will once and for all stop relying on law enforcement agencies to address social problems.** You must develop and implement bold plans to fund community resources and infrastructure *to scale*, and in doing so, create new living wage jobs in the social and human services sector. **Only by making this shift can New York City truly end the tale of two cities.** This shift will not be completed in this budget cycle alone, but New York City must start this process, and we can lead the nation in doing so.

Decades of mass criminalization have extracted vast resources from Black, Brown, and poor communities. We all want to live in strong, safe, healthy neighborhoods, and our communities have long had the

solutions, but not the support. The #buildCOMMUNITIES platform, launched in January 2019 and updated this month, draws on the collective wisdom of over 40 organizations and more than 200 residents of communities most impacted by mass incarceration. The platform highlights areas of need, as well as many programs that are already working, but in dire need of greater investment. I'm pleased to share a copy of that platform with you today.

One particular need that I want to highlight today is Conflict Transformation & Alternative Accountability. Specifically our platform asks that the City support our communities to manage conflict before it escalates to harm and, when harm has happened, to intervene with models that focus on restoration rather than punishment. For generations, both our City and State's first response to public safety needs has been to double down on funding and training for punitive agencies. Despite reductions in crime and sharp declines in the citywide jail population, this City Council and current administration have continued to enforce the status quo by expanding the police force & increasing law enforcement agency budgets each year. Any real commitment to end the legacy of mass criminalization and incarceration in New York City must come with large scale investments into our citywide capacity to respond to conflict, prevent violence and harm, and confront violence and heal from it in sustainable ways.

1. Invest in the capacity of communities to respond to conflict, prevent violence and harm, and to address and heal from it in sustainable ways.
 - a. Support or develop community mediation, trauma and healing centers in all of the neighborhoods most impacted by mass incarceration, with a particular attention to needs of youth, use of arts-based therapy, and engagement of peers in providing programming. Integrate within these centers restorative justice initiatives. To be truly safe community spaces, these centers must have no affiliation with the police.
 - b. Create paid opportunities for community members to learn and apply skills related to social-emotional support and civic engagement, such as conflict de-escalation techniques for themselves, their family and their neighbors.
 - c. Increase programming for trauma-informed healing work for those who have been violent or have been affected by violence.
 - d. Increase funding for the Anti-Gun Violence Youth Employment Program⁵⁷ and increase support for mentorship of young people.
2. Invest in the capacity of government agencies and workers to better respond to harm and violence, and promote healing.
 - a. Provide training for government workers and government funded programs in trauma-informed care.
 - b. Train employees throughout the ranks of government agencies in restorative justice philosophies and practices. This work requires a paradigm shift, so training is important at all levels of government.
3. Expand investment in diversion and alternatives to incarceration (ATI).⁵⁸
 - a. Sufficiently expand investment in diversion and ATI programs to create enough alternatives to replace all City sentences (sentences of less than 1 year).
 - b. Include programs for those with domestic violence charges, focused on addressing root causes of intimate partner violence.
 - c. Prioritize programs which use a trauma-informed approach and are proven to provide those involved not just with an alternative sentence, but with skills and resources to lead more stable lives.
4. Support alternative models of responding to community violence and fostering safety

- a. Expand funding for violence interruption programming⁵⁹ to include civic engagement, mobilization, political education, and creation of youth public health workers. Each site should receive at least 1.5 million for services, not including the cost of space.
- b. To be trusted and effective in their communities, these programs must have no affiliation with the police.

We know that your committee would probably like to fund all of this. And that New York City could. This year's budget allocates over \$14 billion dollars annually into the New York City Police Department, the Department of Corrections, the New York City Department of Probation, and District Attorneys. The majority of the money is spent on the NYPD and the Department of Correction. New Yorkers - and even some police officers themselves - are increasingly aware of the overreach of the New York City Police Department. The enormous size of the NYPD means that police officers are inserted in situations where they are at best not effective, and at worst cause serious harm. Furthermore, though Governor Cuomo has refused to address many of New York City's most important urgent needs, he has insisted, despite broad opposition, on deploying 500 new MTA police officers to our subway system, at a cost of \$249 million. The City should implement an NYPD hiring freeze this year which could, at minimum, balance out this unnecessary addition of law enforcement officers, and allow New York City to save our resources for things like the housing, education, and healthcare that the Governor routinely denies us.

In terms of the Department of Corrections, New York City recently implemented a hiring freeze for DOC, to address the extreme excess of correction officers. The administration has planned to further reduce this workforce only by attrition. But this transition must be addressed more quickly, and more intentionally. The hiring freeze combined with attrition should result in about \$150 million in cost savings this year, the FY 2021, but the budget still reflects an excess of 5,000 correction officers, at a cost of nearly \$1.2 billion this year alone. Those officers work within the notorious culture of violence and failed leadership that exists within DOC, and many of them would consider a transition if one were offered. The City should: conduct an assessment to determine which agencies are in need of more staffing; determine what training and qualifications would be necessary to work in new or currently vacant roles in these agencies, and what counseling may be necessary for officers leaving the Department of Corrections to fill those roles; and establish a fund to help correction officers transition to other work.

We need you, the Council members who understand the importance of resourcing other priorities, to urge the Mayor to make the boldest step he can towards a truly safer, fairer, and more progressive City.

Sincerely,

Brandon J. Holmes
NYC Campaign Coordinator
JustLeadershipUSA

Testimony
New York City Council Public Safety Committee
March 4, 2020
From Ralph Palladino, 2nd Vice President Local 1549

1) Civilianization Saves Tax Dollars

Crime in nearly all categories is going up according to a story in the New York Post on Tuesday. If this is the case then why does the city and NYPD allow 500 able bodied uniformed officers to sit at desks performing routine clerical duties rather than be on the street keeping the public safe? This violation of three arbitrators decisions costs the city \$30 million a year. Why does the city and the NYPD continue to waste city tax dollars in such a way/

The New York Police Department (NYPD) should civilianize immediately. The uniforms working out of title, violating civil service law, are *Police Officers, Traffic Enforcement Agents* and *School Safety Agents*. They perform routine tasks of Police Administrative Aides (PAA) such as answering phones, taking reports, responding to inquiries, filing, roll call and payroll among others. Uniformed personnel can be better utilized in *community policing, enforcement, protecting pedestrians from accidents and in making schools safer*. The NYPD, City Council and union had agreed six years ago that 750 such positions could be civilianized.

The current administration and NYPD has wasted \$180 million (See the attached addendum #1). This is really fiscal irresponsibility on part of the city and NYPD. To be fair this started under the Bloomberg-Kelly Administration but continues today. While the current administration has civilianized some positions, none have been civilianized in the titles ordered for by the arbitrators.

Now crime in nearly all categories is going up according to a story in the New York Post on Tuesday. It uses numbers released by the city.

The NYPD says that close to 386 positions could be civilianized. We say the number is 500. Regardless, what are they waiting for? The number of PAA's has actually decreased to a six-year low during the current administration. Why? (See addendum #2)

If automation is the reason for the decrease then why do they need these 500 uniforms to perform clerical duties? Why are they not out in the streets keeping New York safe? Our Police Administrative Aides dispute the "automation" claim. They have back logs. Police officers sit in information desks in nearly every precinct performing routine duties.

Uniformed officers are out risking their lives every day. Meanwhile a select few able-bodies ones sit in offices, behind desks performing work meant for others to do.

There are hundreds of PAA applicants who passed civil service jobs that they need to support their families. They come mostly from poorer New York City neighborhoods. They paid for and aspire to decent middle-class jobs with benefits. Why are they languishing on civil service lists?

Last year the City Council advocate for 100 positions to be civilianized. It was denied. The NYPD claimed there "was a city ordered freeze on clerical jobs" according to the Council staff.

How absurd is it that the administration puts a freeze on clericals BUT STILL ALLOWS UNIFORMED EMPLOYEES TO SIT AT DESKS PERFORMING CLERICAL DUTIES? Uniformed officers make more than three times what a PAA earns! This is "saving tax dollars"? Not by any reasonable form of accounting!

The city has ended each year in billions of dollars of surplus funds not spent the during the fiscal year (See Addendum #2). So the lack of funds for civilianization are available.

The Mayor should live up to his promises to “finish civilianizing” that he gave us in August of 2017. The City Comptroller had promised to perform an audit on this issue two years ago but so far has done nothing.

We thank the City Council for supporting Civilianization of the New York City Police Department (NYPD) in the past. We ask you to proactively encourage the city administration and NYPD to follow through on their promise to FULLY civilianize. This good government policy is supported by the Independent Budget Office, the Citizens Budget Commission, and the last four City Comptrollers nearly all of whom performed audits?

Failing to civilianize at Police Administrative Aide desks is an outrageous waste of taxpayers’ dollars. It is estimated by various sources, including former City Comptrollers, Public Advocates, the Citizens Budget Commission and the Independent Budget Office that **NYPD Civilianization could save the taxpayers anywhere between \$17 and \$127 million dollars.** **Our latest figures, factoring in our members’ collective bargaining raises, but NOT those of uniformed personnel, show an approximate savings of: \$30 million recurring yearly.** *Civilianization saves tax dollars, enhances public safety and health, and creates jobs for New Yorkers. It is good public policy! What better time to invest in such long term savings when there is such a large budget surplus!*

Ask for Civilianization

We request that the City Council leadership and membership engage the NYPD and City Administration more forcefully to complete the requirements of the three arbitrations case decisions, and finish Civilianization for the Police Administrative Aide positions so as to stop wasting city tax dollars and enhance public safety.

2) NYPD 911 System Staffing

We thank the City Administration and NYPD for increasing staffing levels four years ago for 911 personnel. However there are 50 fewer total PCT/SPCTs as of February 1 of this year than last year. The staffing levels fluctuate due to attrition and occasional new hires failing the training program. The stress level, demands of the job contribute to the high numbers for attrition. Many of those eligible for retirement are doing so. Staffing must be monitored constantly. The additional staffing had helped alleviate overtime, sick leave and stress. The centers receive just over 9 million calls. Note that the texting requirements will begin soon. Other tasks might be added on as well.

The amount of overtime has risen again by roughly \$2 million from 2017 to 2018 (approx. \$7 million to \$9 million). The NYPD reports that 10% of the salary spend on PCT/SPCTs is Overtime. At that rate close to 120 new PCT/SPCTs could be hired instead of forcing Overtime! Overtime adds additional stress to these first responders. When the new texting duties are added to their job requirements there will be added pressures of the job for the PCTs. Stress and burn-out, we believe is, partially responsible for absenteeism and the high turnover rate. Now, there are two Public Safety Answering Centers with many empty cubicles that could be staffed by Police Communication Technicians (PCT) and supervisors (SPCT). (See Addendum #3)

Asks for 911 and the 911 Surcharge Fund

We believe there should be 500 more PCTs/SPCTs added to the staffing levels for both PCAC's. This would improve services on a 24-hour basis. We believe that texting and possibly imaging job requirements will require a separate unit for the PCTs to be assigned to perform those functions. Additional hiring will be a necessity if this work is to succeed.

We also request that the City Council press the NYPD and City Administration to request funding from the state, already included in the state budget, for proper funding from the 911 Surcharge that is generated by the tax that appears on the cell and telephone bills. (See Addendum #3 that attached for information on that and failure of the state to use the funds.)

Funds from the Surcharge could be used to provide safe and speedy transportation of personnel to and from public transportation for the Bronx PSAC. Such an investment will keep our members safer and increase productivity. It could also provide Childcare for our members who need it. The Bloomberg administration shut down the Childcare Center at 1 Police Plaza. These items and others would be an enhancement of the 911 system.

Addendum 1- Civilianization Savings

NYPD: PAA/ SPAA Headcount Comparison 2014 – 2019

	1/13/14	1/28/15	1/8/16	1/12/17	1/1/18	1/1/20
P.A.A.	1479	1478	1414	1385	1330	1242
S.P.A.A.	852	866	874	887	888	789

P.A.A. = Police Administrative Aide

S.P.A.A. = Senior Police Administrative Aide

DC 37 HEADCOUNT NUMBERS

CIVILIANIZATION Cost Savings Documented

DC 37 latest analysis of cost savings for Civilianization of the NYPD. The numbers from DC 37 Research and Negotiations reflect the inclusion of the collective bargaining increases for our members including health benefits.

NYPD- 750 (this is the number set by the NYPD and City Council and we are agreeable to it)
500 (This is the approximate number of positions still not civilianized as of late 2014 as per the NY City Council)

These are positions where *able bodied uniformed employees* are performing routine clerical duties. These duties include roll call, payroll, answering phones, filing, etc. There are currently civil service lists that are pending where these positions can be filled with able candidates. None of the job descriptions for the work being performed are different that the job descriptions contained in the Civil Service Job Specifications.

See below:

NYPD- Using the incumbent rates after 5 years a uniformed police officer would be a cost of \$87,119.20 (current) and approximately \$95,831 (factoring in the pattern for collective bargaining) and a Police Administrative Aide would cost \$51, 658.60. The additional cost for a uniformed employee is \$35,460.60. Multiplied by 500 positions is **\$26,595.450 annually.** **(\$30 million approximately annually factoring in NYPD uniformed collective bargaining agreement not yet finished negotiation but based on pattern of other agreements.)**

500 positions civilianized this year would save \$30 million per year for each future year

• **ADDENDUM #2 911 Surcharge Revenue Raiser**



NYS Comptroller

NEWS from the Office of the New York State Comptroller

Contact: Press Office 518-474-4015

New York City Projecting Surplus of \$2.7 Billion in Current Fiscal Year

February 21, 2020

New York City projects a surplus of more than \$2.7 billion for fiscal year (FY) 2020, up from \$550 million in November 2019, which it plans to transfer to FY 2021 to help balance that year's budget, according to a [report released today](#) by State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli.

"New York City's economy has been strong in recent years, generating resources to expand municipal services and to close projected budget gaps," DiNapoli said. "The out-year budget gaps are relatively small, but there is still a risk of an economic downturn. Also, the proposed executive state budget could increase costs for the city. The city should continue to boost reserves and look for new ways to save."

In January, city officials released a four-year financial plan for FY 2020 through FY 2024. The surplus for FY 2020 results mainly from an increase in the city's revenue forecast since the start of the fiscal year (\$1.2 billion) and a reduction in reserves (\$1.1 billion) that are no longer needed in the current fiscal year given the strength of tax collections. The city also anticipates savings of \$400 million from prior years' expenses.

The citywide savings program is now expected to generate \$1.2 billion during FY 2020 and FY 2021, but savings at city agencies have been more than offset by new needs. Most of these are associated with state-mandated criminal justice reforms and education.

Changes since the beginning of the fiscal year in July have reduced the out-year budget gaps to \$2.4 billion in FY 2022 and \$2.7 billion in each of FY 2023 and FY 2024. The gaps average 3.5 percent of city fund revenues, a share that is among the smallest in the past 20 years.

The city's relatively conservative revenue forecasts reflect the concern of an economic slowdown during the financial plan period. While the risk of a recession in 2020 has eased since last summer, the risk remains elevated during the financial plan period. DiNapoli's report finds that though revenues could be marginally higher than the city's forecast based on trends in the current fiscal year, the benefit may be offset by the potential for higher spending for overtime and education.

The city's financial plan does not reflect the impact of the Governor's proposed budget for state fiscal year 2021, which begins April 1. The executive budget includes a number of proposals that, if enacted, would adversely impact the city's budget. The city estimates that the most concerning of these proposals would have increased its Medicaid costs significantly had they been in effect last year, although the impact on next year's budget is not yet known.

Full Report

[Review of the Financial Plan of the City of New York](#)

Find out how your government money is spent at [Open Book New York](#). Track municipal spending, the state's 170,000 contracts, billions in state payments and public authority data. Visit the [Reading Room](#) for contract FOIL requests, bid protest decisions and commonly requested data.

Albany Phone: (518) 474-4015 Fax: (518) 473-8940
NYC Phone: (212) 383-1388 Fax: (212) 681-7677
Internet: www.osc.state.ny.us
E-Mail: press@osc.state.ny.us

FCC: New York is siphoning millions meant for emergency communications

By [Gregory Bresiger](#) New York Post

January 5, 2019 | 9:19pm

New York's 911 communication services are in a state of emergency themselves as Albany siphons off hundreds of millions of dollars in much-needed funds to state coffers, an FCC commissioner says.

Under a federal statute, states are allowed to collect taxes on cellphones but must use all the money for emergency communications services.

However, New York "diverts" some of the money to other things, a federal regulator says in a new report.

The Federal Communication Commission's Michael O'Rielly complains that New York is now one of only three states that continue the practice.

New York uses these 911 funds "for either non-public safety or unspecified uses," [according to the annual FCC report](#), titled "On State Collection and Distribution of 911 and Enhanced 911 Fees and Charges."

"This harmful behavior short-changes call centers and prevents necessary upgrades, thereby threatening the public's safety at their most vulnerable time, or it deceives consumers by stealing their money for other spending purposes," O'Rielly wrote in the latest report.

The FCC "has found New York to be a diverter of 911 fees every year since 2009," according to the latest report.

A spokesman for New York State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli referred questions to the state Assembly, which initiates all money bills, and the governor.

A spokesman for the Assembly Speaker's office didn't respond to repeated questions. But a spokesman for Gov. Cuomo said the money is properly used.

Still, O'Rielly insists New York doesn't comply.

Indeed, the report found that about 90 percent of these emergency communications funds were not spent on 911 purposes in 2017.

Cellphone fees generated about \$189 million in revenue for New York, the FCC report said, and about 42 percent of that went into the General Fund.

That "by itself provides sufficient basis to identify New York as having diverted 911 fees for non-911 purposes," the report said.

A spokesman for the governor at the New York State Division of the Budget challenges the FCC report.

“New York’s cellular surcharge is used to upgrade public-safety communication systems and support emergency services operations statewide, including through the provision of interoperable communications grants,” the spokesman said. “These programs are providing critical funding to help first responders at all levels of government communicate faster and respond sooner.”

The state spokesman added New York officials are obligated to put large amounts of these charges into the General Fund.

“New York State Tax Law Section 186-f requires that the General Fund, being the primary funding source for the State’s public safety activities, receive 41.7 percent of the revenue from this fee,” the state spokesman said.

Still, a spokeswoman for O’Rielly said New York makes “excuses” for not complying and that most states now spend 911 money as prescribed by federal rules.

Lawyer Scott Mackey of the Tax Foundation think tank says, “New York is one of only a few states that diverts funds routinely.”

Mackey, who has studied the use of 911 money across the United States, warns that emergency communications services are affected.

“I am not a NY resident,” Mackey adds, “but I think New Yorkers might be concerned that 911 system improvements could be delayed because funds are used for other purposes.”

O’Rielly says he will keep pushing for states to use 911 funds only for the designated purposes.

“Having had some success this year eliminating diversion by some states and territories,” he writes, “this year’s list highlights how much more work remains and how it is clear that some repeat offenders cannot be shamed (e.g., New York, New Jersey, Rhode Island).”

Recent Editorial about NYS misuse of 911 Surcharge:

“Put cell phone tax proceeds where they belong by Bob Confer Commentary, January 28, 2018.”



LOCKPORT UNION-SUN & JOURNAL

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www.lockportjournal.com/...tax.../article_0ec6082a-91b7-50a5-8691-9c8e5f08ff67.h...

- If you look at your cell phone bill you will see a \$1.20-line item called the “New York Public Safety Communications Surcharge.” Originally appearing as an E911 tax, it was put into place in the 1990s — at 70 cents per month — to provide the state with money to upgrade 911 call centers and public safety communications systems.

- By intent, it was a worthwhile tax as emergency dispatchers needed to keep up with the explosive development of wireless phone technology. Plus, as we unfortunately saw during the horrific events of Sept. 11, interoperability of two-way devices for police officers and firemen was a “must-have” that they didn’t have at all.
- But, intent and reality are two entirely different things, especially when it comes to government and money.
- Misappropriation might be too strong a word (since it implies criminality), but there is likely no more accurate term to describe the state’s ongoing misuse of this tax. Of the \$14.40 that you pay into the purported use of the tax each year, only about \$5 goes to where it belongs. The rest — \$9.40 — is put into the state’s general fund and spent on anything under the sun.
- At first glance, it may seem like a pittance to some folks, but consider the growth of the cell phone industry since the tax came to be. Cell phones of all shapes and styles are now used by what seems to be every man, woman, and, yes, child in the Empire State. What once was a luxury has taken on an air of necessity. The family that used to share one landline now has wireless devices for everyone in the household. Putting that to numbers: Last year, there were over 238 million cell phones in the United States. In 1991, when the legislature introduced the tax, there were only 7.5 million cell phone subscribers in the country. That’s a lot of new sources of revenue from which our state — and others — reap.
- In recent years, New York State has collected over \$185 million annually from the tax. That figure is set to grow as: 1.) more smartphones and tablets are being put into circulation; and 2.) the state just put into play in December a revision to the tax that collects another 90 cents at the point of sale on pre-paid phones.
- In most years, only a third to 40 percent of the funds are put to use across the state for their intended purpose. This has been hanging out to dry local taxpayers as municipalities upgrade their communications system to meet today’s needs and expectations.
- Case in point, consider what happened with the new police and fire radio system that was launched in Niagara County two years ago. It was not only necessary by federal mandate (a 9/11 aftermath), but also by actual need: If you listened to the police scanner before everyone went digital in 2015, you heard numerous first responders struggling to communicate with dispatch from radio dead zones throughout the county.
- At a price tag of \$10 million it wasn’t a cheap investment. Of that amount, only a fifth was funded by the safety communications tax when in theory — and actual designation of state law — it should have been fully funded by the cell phone tax. The other \$8 million to cover the county’s project had to come from cash flows and borrowing of money. Local taxpayers were footing the bill.
- It shouldn’t be that way. The state isn’t playing by its own rules when it comes to the tax. It shouldn’t hold the purse strings and pit county against county through a “competitive” grant process for them to get back just a fraction of the amount that was collected. By doing so, the state is tightening the thumb screws on already cash-strapped municipalities and taxpayers while sacrificing their safety in the process.



- This legislative session, the Governor and the Legislature need to develop real strategies to keep the tax out of the general fund. They need to do with the tax exactly what was intended. After all, the state already digs into our phone bills at a 4 percent clip every billing cycle. Let them have that and let us have what we deserve and what we need.

Bob Confer is a Gasport resident and vice president of Confer Plastics Inc. in North Tonawanda. Email him at bobconfer@juno.com

Addendum #3 Need for more 911 Personnel

Local 1549's EMERGENCY FY 2019 Budget Request:

Immediately Hire Five Hundred (500) NYPD Police Communications Technicians (PCTs) with Corresponding Promotions to Supervising Police Communication Technicians (SPCTs)

to Address the Current Overtime and Staffing Crisis at the Communications Division

Rationale for Emergency Budget Request:

In FY 2014, Local 1549 made a Budget Request to the City Council for the immediate hiring of four hundred (400) NYPD Police Communications Technicians with corresponding promotions to Supervising Police Communication Technicians to address the overtime crisis at the Communications Division. The City Council at that time included the hiring of 200 NYPD Police Communications Technicians in the budget, which alleviated the overtime staffing crisis at that time.

Local 1549, as the sole and exclusive collective bargaining representative of these employees, is appreciative to the Speaker, Mayor and Police Commissioner and the Commanding Officer of the Communications Division, for the budget consideration and implementation. It made a real impact for a most effective and efficient Call Center. The best in the nation.

At this time, Local 1549 requests an emergency budget allocation for the hiring of five hundred (500) PCTs with corresponding promotions to SPCT, because the understaffing, as measured by paid overtime, still exists and several additional significant factors must be addressed. Local 1549 pursues this matter in line with Article V of the Clerical Unit Contract, Productivity and Performance:

“Delivery of municipal services in the most efficient, effective and courteous manner is of paramount importance to the Employer and the Union. Such achievement is recognized to be a mutual obligation of both parties within their respective roles and responsibilities.”

^aPCT Total Compensation \$76,216 x 500 New PCTs = \$38,108,000.

NYC Clerical-Administrative Employees Local 1549, District Council 37, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, 125 Barclay Street, New York, New York 10007; 212.815.1549.

Rationale for Emergency Budget Request Continued:

- A Local 1549 analysis and assessment of the appropriate positions required to staff two (2) Public Safety Answering Centers (PSACs I and II) suggests the hiring of an additional five hundred (500) Police Communications Technicians, Code Number 71012 and Supervising Police Communications Technicians, Code Number 71013; C-Xi Police Communications Technician Occupational Group (292).
- Increased cell phone usage, increase in the number of tourists visiting NYC and heightened frequency of terrorist alerts.
- A Local 1549 analysis of PCT attrition requires a preemptive hiring factor.

- PSACs I and II require staffing to handle 911 computer system glitches and crashes.

- NYPD'S NEXT GENERATION 911 (NG911) deployment requires a preemptive hiring factor:

911.gov indicates: "For more than 40 years, the 911 system has served the needs of the public in emergencies. Next Generation 911 (NG911) will enhance the 911 system to create a faster, more flexible, resilient, and scalable system that allows 911 to keep up with communication technology used by the public.

Put simply, NG911 is an Internet Protocol (IP)-based system that allows digital information (e.g., voice, photos, videos, text messages) to flow seamlessly from the public, through the 911 network, and on to emergency responders. While the technology to implement NG911 systems is available now, the transition to NG911 involves much more than just new computers. Implementing NG911 will include activities of many people, who will coordinate efforts to plan and deploy a continually evolving system of hardware, software, standards, policies, protocols and training."

- Elimination of excessive overtime to ensure an attentive staff to assure a near zero error rate.
- Adequate staffing to cover PCT and SPCT training sessions.

Background for the Emergency PCT Budget Request:

The understaffing of the Police Department's Communications Section results in excessive and unreasonable ordered overtime for 911 operators and dispatchers. This causes debilitating stress, burnout, exhaustion and poor health which is evidenced by abnormally high rates of reporting sick. Emergencies, such as a major snowstorm, hurricane, blackout, etc. further exacerbate this condition.

In April 2013, the 1,030 Police Communication Technicians (PCT) and 130 Supervising Police Communication Technicians, (SPCT) represented by Local 1549 had a total Chapter membership of 1,160 members at NYPD 911.

At that time, these numbers still represented severe understaffing. Local 1549 requests the immediate emergency hiring of an additional 500 Police Communication Technicians to properly handle emergency police calls to 911 and end the excessive overtime for some staff members. In addition, we need to hire SPCTs to supervise and manage emergencies.

After the City Council increased the budget head count by 200, we had (January 2018) the following PCT and SPCT staffing²:

Title:	Number:
Supervising Police Communication Technicians	174
Police Communication Technicians	1,345
Total	1,519

911 Overtime Crisis for the Period 2008-2017:

The cost of Police Communication Technicians (PCT) and Supervising Police Communication Technicians (SPCT) excessive overtime is listed below:

2008: \$2,149,471.80

2009: \$1,866,669.60

2010: \$3,234,452.90

2011: \$3,377,256.20

2012: \$4,030,705 Est.

2013: n/a

2014: \$8,212,521*

2015: \$6,424,546*

2016: \$6,732,203*

2017: \$7,746,311*

2018: \$9,101,118*

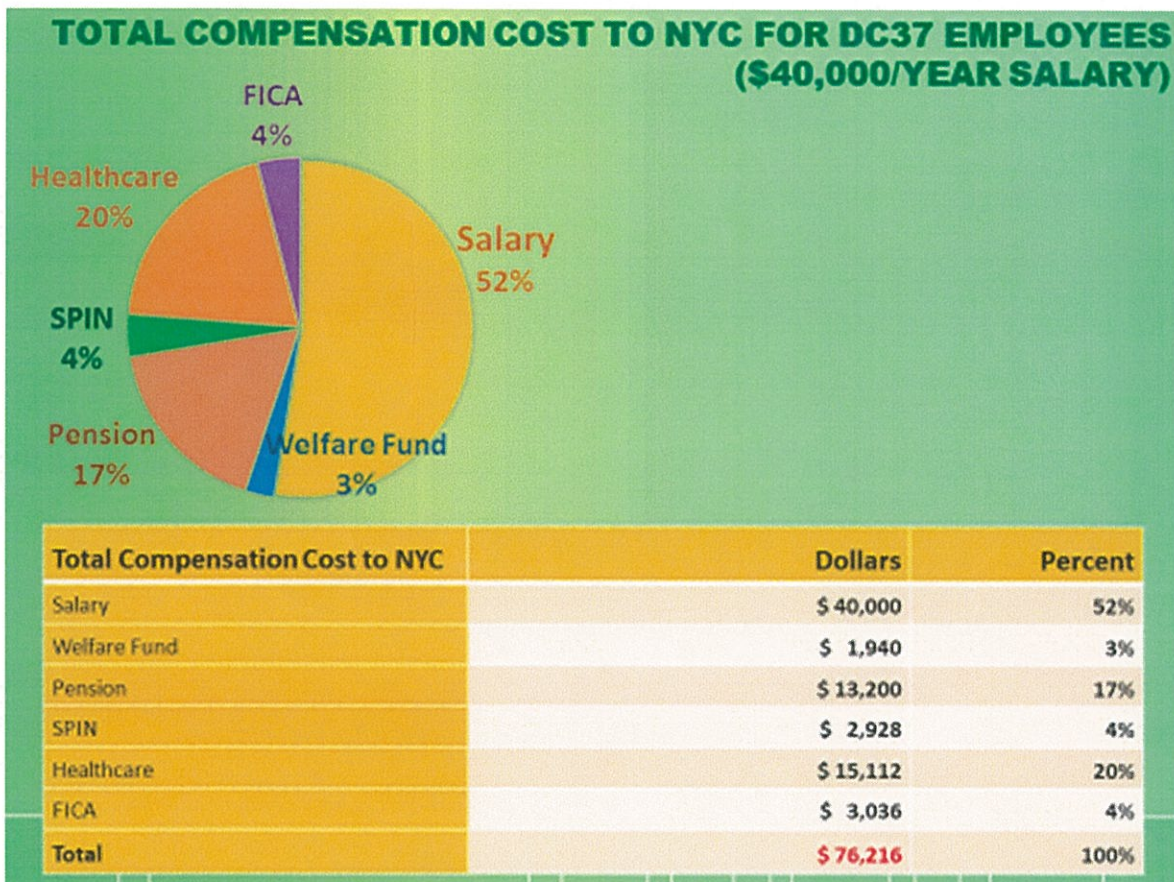
Note: *Based on NYC Payroll Data

Table 1
NYPD's PCT, SPCT Staffing, and 911 Call Volume
for the Period 2009 to 2017²:

Date	PCT	SPCT	Total Staff	Call Volume
2018	1168 Est.	166 Est.	1334Est.	9,000,000 Est.
2017	1168	166	1334	n/a
2016	1195	139	1334	9,404,025

2015	1265	141	1406	9,973,747
2014	1193	127	1320	9,986,890
2013	1030	130	1160	n/a
2012	1076	126	1202	13,000,000 Est.
2011	1084	128	1212	11,241,115
2010	1046	131	1077	11,052,108
2009	1168	131	1299	10,853,522

Table 2



³Local 1549 Fiscal Note: Source: DC 37 Research and Negotiations Department, AFSCME, AFL-CIO June 2017.

SPIN is an adjustment for Assignment differentials Service differentials Longevity payment Uniform allowance.

Funding Sources for 500 Newly Hired PCTs:

[PCT Total Compensation \$76,216 x 200 New Hires = \$38,108,000].

The proliferation of cell phones and hand-held devices, along with a heightened awareness of the threat of terrorism (e.g.: *'See something, say something'* and the new *'Opioid Crisis Public Services Announcement Program'*), has increased the call volume to the point that Communications Section personnel handle as many as 13 million calls in a single year.

Funding Sources:

I. Local 1549 Budget Request: Converting Paid NYPD PCT/SPCT (911) Overtime into New PCT Hires.

NYPD's PCTs and SPCTs perform a 24 hour/7 day a week /365 days a year life saving service for the citizens of New York City. They are the "first of the first responders⁴."

Local 1549 contends that 911 excessive overtime is problematic from a productivity point of view in a most critical service.

The historic amount of overtime indicates a chronic staff shortage that results in operator fatigue which drastically increases the potential for human error. Additionally, increased fatigue results in a higher sick rate, which results in an increase in overtime assignments. Local 1549 recommends that the New York City Council explore the emergency conversion of paid NYPD PCT overtime into new PCT (911) hires in the FY 2018 Budget at no additional costs.

Local 1549 recommends that the New York City Council explore the emergency conversion of paid NYPD PCT overtime into new PCT (911) hires in the FY 2018 Budget

Converting paid NYPD PCT /SPCT (911) overtime into New PCT Hires can offset the cost of the new hiring.

Table 3

A Projection of Converting Paid NYPD PCT /SPCT Overtime into New PCT Hires to Offset the Cost of the New Hiring.

2008: \$2,149,471.80 ÷ \$46,790 equals **50** Newly hired PCTs (Based on 2008 salary).

2009: \$1,866,669.60 ÷ \$46,790 equals **40** Newly hired PCTs (Based on 2009 salary).

2010: \$3,234,452.90 ÷ \$46,790 equals **70** Newly hired PCTs (Based on 2009 salary).

2011: \$3,377,256.20 ÷ \$46,790 equals **72** Newly hired PCTs (Based on 2009 salary).

2012: \$4,030,705 Est. ÷ \$46,790 equals **86** Newly hired PCTs (Based on 2009 salary).

2013: N/A

2014: \$8,212,521 ÷ \$76,216 equals **108** Newly hired PCTs (Based on 2017 salary+benefits).

2015: \$6,424,546 ÷ \$76,216 equals **84** Newly hired PCTs (Based on 2017 salary+benefits).

2016: \$6,732,203 ÷ \$76,216 equals **88** Newly hired PCTs (Based on 2017 salary+benefits).

2017: \$7, 746,311 ÷ \$76,216 equals **101** Newly hired PCTs (Based on 2017 salary+benefits).

2018: \$9,101,118 ÷ \$76,216 equals **119** Newly hired PCTs (Based on 2017 salary+benefits).

Attrition

The PCT/SPCT Chapter explains that members are leaving to join other uniform agencies to become Police Officers or Correction Officers. This a large part of the current attrition.

II. The Various 911 Surcharges Must Be Reviewed and a Fairer Amount Retained by New York City and Allocated to the NYPD

Communications Division. The NYS Department of Home Land Security should issue a Grant to Cover the Cost for the Additional PCTs.

**Table 4
 NYC 911 Tax Rate by Phone Service⁴:**

Source: NYC Finance Department

Every month New York City cell phone users pay an extra \$1.20

Service	Monthly Surcharge	
Wireless	30 cents	per wireless device
Landline	\$1.00	per line

on their bills, a state mandate. The surcharges were established to provide for the adequate funding and staffing of 911 operations and to evolve as the telecommunications devices used by the public changes.

NYC E-911 Surcharge for Telecommunications Services⁴:

“Wireless, landline and Voice over Internet Protocol (VOIP) telecommunications service providers include a 911 surcharge on all New York City customer bills. All affected telecommunications service providers are required to collect this surcharge and pass it along to the City minus a 2% administrative fee. Source - NYC Department of Finance website: www1.nyc.gov/site/.../business-e911-surcharge-for-telecommunications-services.page

New York State Department of Taxation and Finance Office of Tax Policy Analysis Taxpayer Guidance Division⁴, Public Safety Communications Surcharge, TSB-M-09(8) C Corporation Tax August 27, 2009.⁵

“Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2009 repealed County Law, section 309, *State Wireless Communications Service Surcharge*. The surcharge was replaced with a new Tax Law section: Article 9, section 186-f, *Public Safety Communications Surcharge*. Chapter 56 also amended Article 9, section 186-e.8 to provide that the public safety communications surcharge and any administrative fees retained by a wireless communications service supplier for collecting the surcharge will not be included in gross receipts when the supplier calculates the excise tax on telecommunication services imposed under Article 9, section 186-e. These amendments are effective September 1, 2009.

Continuing (NYS) provisions

“The following are the provisions that were imposed under County Law section 309 that are now imposed under Tax Law section 186-f.

“A monthly \$1.20 fee is imposed for **each** device used to access wireless communications services. The surcharge is to be collected by wireless communications service suppliers from their customers. Therefore, wireless communications service plans that include multiple devices are subject to the surcharge on **each** device regardless of the pricing structure for the plan.

“The surcharge applies to all wireless communications services if the wireless communications customer’s *place of primary use* is in New York State. The *place of primary use* is the primary business street address or primary residential street address of the customer, within the licensed service area of the wireless communications service provider.

“A *wireless communications service* is any commercial mobile service, as that term is defined in section 332(d) of Title 47 of the United States Code, as amended from time to time, including, but not limited to, all broadband personal communications services, wireless radio telephone services, geographic-area specialized and enhanced specialized mobile radio services, and incumbent-wide area specialized mobile radio licensees, which offer real-time, **two-way** voice or data service that is interconnected with the public switched telephone network or otherwise provides access to emergency communications services.

“A *wireless communications device* is any equipment used to access a wireless communications service. Examples of wireless communications devices on which the surcharge is imposed include cellular telephones, two-way beepers, and other devices (for example, PDAs and handheld or laptop computers, etc.) that have two-way wireless communications capabilities over a public switched network.

“Examples of devices on which the surcharge is **not** imposed include one-way beepers, walkie-talkies, and medical lifeline services.” Source: <https://www.tax.ny.gov/bus/pscs.htm>

The Federal Perspective from The FCC⁶:

An Excerpt from the EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS ON STATE COLLECTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF 911 AND ENHANCED 911 FEES AND CHARGES FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2015 TO DECEMBER 31, 2015 Submitted Pursuant to Public Law No. 110-283 FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Tom Wheeler, Chairman December 30, 2016:

“The New and Emerging Technologies 911 Improvement Act of 2008 (NET 911 Act) requires the Commission to submit an annual report to Congress on the collection and distribution of 911 and Enhanced 911 fees and charges by the states, the District of Columbia, U.S. territories, and Tribal Nations (states and other reporting entities). As part of its annual review, the NET 911 Act requires the Commission to report whether 911 fees and charges collected by states and other reporting entities are being used for any purpose other than to support 911 and Enhanced 911 (E911) services.”

The City Council needs to assist in this matter. The Federal Communications Commission finds Illinois, New Hampshire, **New York**, Rhode Island, and Puerto Rico used a portion of their 911/E911 funds for either non-public safety or unspecified uses in 2016.

Local 1549 contends that emergency personnel require emergency funding and that before dedicated emergency tax funds are diverted away to non-emergency uses the emergency function staffing must be funded in an appropriate manner.

Notes:

¹. **911.gov.**: <https://www.911.gov/pdf/National-911-Program-2016-ProfileDatabaseProgressReport>.

². Source: **PCT and SPCT headcount** reported per SP112 DC 37 Membership Department.

³. **Clerical Unit Agreement between NYC** and DC 37 March 3, 2008 to March 2, 2010, Article III, Section b, p.12; Arbitrator’s Award, DC 37, 4 OCB2d 53 (BCB 2011) and 2010-2017 Memorandum of Agreement District council 37 and the City of New York.

4. **NYC 911 Tax:** www1.nyc.gov/site/.../business-e911-surcharge-for-telecommunications-services.page

5. **NYS 911 Tax Authorization Laws:** <https://www.tax.ny.gov/bus/pscs.htm>.

6. **The Federal Perspective from The FCC:** EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS ON STATE COLLECTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF 911 AND ENHANCED 911 FEES AND CHARGES FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2015 TO DECEMBER 31, 2015 Submitted Pursuant to Public Law No. 110-283 FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Tom Wheeler, Chairman December 30, 2016:
https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-17-61A2_Rcd.pdf

7. **The City of New York Adopted Budget – Fiscal Year 2018 Supporting Schedules** Operating Budget, Agency: 056 **POLICE DEPARTMENT** Unit of Appropriation: 01 Operations, Responsibility Center: 1610 **Communications Division**, page 692. Includes other civilian positions other than PCTs and SPCTs:

Agency: 056 **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Unit of Appropriation: 01 **Operations**

Responsibility Center: 1610 **Communications Division**

<u>Object Class</u>	<u>#POS</u>	<u>Amount</u>
01 F/T Salaried 001 F/T 001 Full Year Positions	1,557	\$75,170,380
004 F/T Full Time Uniformed	90	\$ 9,510,008
Sub Total F/T Salaried	1,647	\$84,680,388



March 4, 2020

**Testimony to the City Council Committee on Public Safety
Submitted by Turquoise Martin, Member of JustLeadershipUSA**

Dear Chair Donovan Richards and Committee Members,

Thank you for allowing the opportunity for public testimony today and your leadership on this issue. My name is Turquoise Martin and I am a member of JustLeadershipUSA, as well as an undergrad student at Hunter College. I want to highlight the opportunities New York City has, but is not currently taking, to immediately invest in the types of community resources that can create safety by strengthening and stabilizing communities. We can do this, even with cuts from the state, by beginning the long-overdue work of divesting from overfunded systems of law enforcement.

Each budget cycle, New Yorkers passionately and articulately make the case for desperately-needed funding for housing, education, libraries, healthcare, youth programs and more. In each budget cycle, they walk away with only a fraction of what is needed. Every time that happens, gaping holes widen in our social safety net, and law enforcement agencies are once again relied upon to respond to challenges they will never be equipped to address - challenges of public health, poverty, and inequality.

This is a choice, and our elected officials have the power to make a different choice.

Decades of mass criminalization have extracted vast resources from Black, Brown, and poor communities. We all want to live in strong, safe, healthy neighborhoods, and our communities have the solutions, but not the support. The #buildCOMMUNITIES platform, launched in January 2019 and updated this month, draws on the collective wisdom of over 40 organizations and more than 200 residents of communities most impacted by mass incarceration. The platform highlights areas of need, as well as many programs that are already working, but in dire need of greater investment. I'm pleased to share a copy of that platform with you today.

One particular need that I want to highlight today is Community Programs and Services. Specifically the demands for investments to community-led centers, public libraries and

organizations focused on social justice and activism. When I was younger, I was cared for by family members because my mother could not. My family cultivated my love for learning and reading. When I was 10 years old, my caretakers passed away and I was placed in foster care. I stayed with families who padlocked their fridges and their children would destroy the books I read. I found a safe haven at the Tremont Library on Washington Ave in the Bronx and I would stay there until closing. Although I faced challenges, programs in my community balanced the scales. Today I am a CUNY undergrad studying Mandarin as a third language. My 15 year old son is a high school student with 12 college credits commutes from Lower Manhattan to campuses in Brooklyn and also attends The Brotherhood/Sister Sol Program in West Harlem and would undoubtedly benefit from extended hours on his student metrocard or an unlimited student metrocard. We talk a lot about families but I also want to acknowledge the young people who may not have families and would benefit from the support of such programs and more spaces for mentoring, positive encouragement and the opportunity to build community they may otherwise not have.

We know that your committee would probably like to fund all of our needs. And that New York City is capable of doing so. This year's budget allocates over \$14 billion dollars annually into the New York City Police Department, the Department of Corrections, the New York City Department of Probation, and District Attorneys. And last year the Department of Corrections could only account for overtime, ScanTrons and more puppies for the K9 unit.

We need you, to urge the Mayor to reinvest in the communities that need the investments the most and make our city truly safer, fairer, and more progressive .

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Turquoise J. Martin
JustLeadershipUSA

My name is Darlene Jackson and I'm a member and supporter of the Close Rikers and Build Communities campaign.

As the city begins the closure of Rikers Island and shifting to safer, smaller, and humane borough based facilities to reach NYC's decarceration goals and a restorative approach.

The culture of systemic violence as of result of poverty in this city needs to begin to shift and be treated as a public health crisis and not continue as a punitive system.

We need our elected officials in city council to be bold and have the political courage to do the right thing and divest from the NYPD's 5 billion budget and invest in communities of color impacted by mass incarceration - and drastically eliminate the number of arrests through preventative services.

And we can do that by creating a just transition to union jobs that meets the needs of NYC.

Ending our city's culture of violence, begins with addressing the historic disinvestment of resources in our communities that fills our criminal justice system because of poverty, the worse form of violence.

The city for far too long has relied on our jails to warehouse people experiencing homelessness, mental illness and substance use, and untreated trauma. These issues are intensified by placing the responsibility on law enforcement, an agency that is not equipped to deal with our public health crisis and its root causes, and are simply trained to ensure safety and security. They are not properly trained in trauma informed care that can support their own wellbeing as well.

We have an opportunity now to reimagine what Public Safety means in New York City with a restorative justice lens that would allow everyone to live in dignity with their basic necessities met regardless of race, class and due process.

I urge the city council to invest in the community resources laid out by the Build Communities platform, divest in law enforcement and invest in resources that would better serve public safety and health such as in school counselors, crisis intervention teams, crisis respite centers, affordable housing and affordable healthcare.

It's time we move away from living in a punitive state and truly create a pathway for New Yorkers thrive.

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Josae Artalejo

Address: 269 Skillman Bklyn

I represent: None

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Jonathan Darche

Address: 100 Church Street 10007

I represent: CCRB

Address: S99

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Fred Davie

Address: 100 Church Street 10007

I represent: CCRB

Address: S99

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

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in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Dailene Jackson

Address: _____

I represent: Bronx community Board 9

Address: Close Rides campaign

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

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in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Chief Fausto Pichardo

Address: Chief of Patrol Services

I represent: _____

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Chief Rodney Harrison

Address: Chief of Detectives

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

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I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Chief Michael Lipetri

Address: Chief of Crime Control Strategies

I represent: _____

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

[]

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Deputy Chief Anthony Tesso

Address: Information Technology

I represent: _____

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

[]

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Deputy Commissioner Mgmt + Budget Kristine Ryan

Address: NYPD

I represent: _____

Address: _____



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**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Police Commissioner Dermot Shea

Address: NYPD

I represent: _____

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: First Deputy Commissioner Benjamin Tucker

Address: _____

I represent: NYPD

Address: 1 Police Plaza, NY NY 10035

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 3-4-20

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Chief Terence Monahan

Address: _____

I represent: NYPD

Address: 1 Police Plaza, NY NY 10035

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Chief William Morris

Address: Chief of Transportation

I represent: _____

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Chief David Barrere

Address: Chief of Housing

I represent: _____

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Deputy Commissioner Ernest Hart

Address: DC of Legal Matters

I represent: NYPD

Address: 1 Police Plaza

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____
 in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Chief Nilda Hoffman

Address: Chief of Community Affairs

I represent: _____

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

8

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____
 in favor in opposition

Date: 3/4/20

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: JOHN McFARLANE

Address: 222-12 100 AV (Que NY)

I represent: VOCAL-NY & CPR

Address: 80 4th Ave, BROXN NY 11217

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

10

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____
 in favor in opposition

Date: 3/4/20

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: FANNY MARIE RAMOS

Address: 5 ESR DRIVE, APT 6D, NY, NY 10009

I represent: High Mi Madre! NYC Network of Worker Corps,

Address: Just Leadership USA, East Harlem Preservation, Green

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**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

[]

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____
 in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: Ashley Sawyer, Esq (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: Girls for Gender Equity

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

[]

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____
 in favor in opposition

Date: 3/4/20

Name: Towafiq Komtisy (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: Private

I represent: Self

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

[]

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____
 in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: BRANDON HOLMES (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 520A Decatur St BK

I represent: Just Leadership USA

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 3/4/20

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Ralph Fallochino 1st Vice President

Address: Local 1549

I represent: DC 37, Local 1549

Address: _____

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**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

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in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Jonathan Davone

Address: 100 Church St 10th Fl

I represent: Civilian Company Review Board

Address: _____

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THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Reverend Frederick Davis

Address: 100 Church St. 10M Fl

I represent: CIVILIAN COMPLAINT REVIEW BOARD

Address: 11

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 6/3/2020

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Shane (Cornea)

Address: _____

I represent: Plumber & Dry Contractor renovation

Address: 1720 84th Ave E D

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms