From: <u>Leatherneck0212</u>

To: <u>City Council Public Comments</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] SRPD Staffing sub committee meeting

**Date:** Monday, January 25, 2021 5:15:00 PM

## To the elected officials,

As a city of Santa Rosa community member, I am writing this letter in support of placing a higher emphasis on hiring additional SRPD Officers. As a person who has been through the last three fires and catastrophes that has beset our community, the City of Santa Rosa would not have met with nearly the same amount of success if the Santa Rosa Police Department had not been a part of the city. Unfortunately the elected officials and people who are in the City's political arena have an issue with being able to verbally support them and provide the necessary support that each officer in SRPD is more than deserving of. They are more concerned with providing sweeping generalizations and stating accusations without having to bother with having a little thing called data to back up their accusations.

The SRPD has served this community for more years than I can count. While there is always room to improve how the City government does things, it has never panned out as a beneficial practice to do so at the detriment of one department. With the cut or 1 Million dollars from the department, you rob the citizens of the city from being able to have services from the police department able to help them when they are needed. Expecting less police officers to do more with less funding is an errant and foolish proposition that typically end up in the city being in a bind, and then the city keeps pushing for more to be done with less,

I support Chief Navarro, and the Santa Rosa Police Department, even if the other council members and city officials are not bold enough to state this simple fact.

From: <u>Public Safety Subcommittee Comment</u>

To: <u>City Clerk</u>

Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Agenda item 3.1

Date: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 8:01:15 AM

## FYI

From: Rose Sofranko <rosesofranko@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Monday, January 25, 2021 5:10 PM

**To:** Public Safety Subcommittee Comment <PSS-comment@srcity.org>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Agenda item 3.1

January 25, 2021

RE: City Council Comment on Agenda Item 3.1/ Police Staffing Study Session

Council Members:

I am so sad at what is happening to our beautiful city. No wonder so many are leaving this state. Santa Rosa used to be the most beautiful place to live. Now it is filled with trash, no lovely flowers along the highways and streets, and now our safety is in peril.

I'm addressing Agenda Item #3.1, for the City Council Meeting of <u>January 26, 2021</u>, regarding Santa Rosa Police Department Staffing and the Police Staffing Study Session.

I'm writing to give input for the Police Staffing Study Session and to convey my support for our Santa Rosa Police Department.

First: I must register my outrage at the lack of support our elected city council and appointed city manager have given the Santa Rosa Police Officers. The minute you bowed to the pressure from special interest groups and withdrew your support from local law enforcement, you stopped acting in the best interest of our community and you violated the trust of your constituents. This is not a course of action I support or voted for.

Second: I am asking for you to fully restore the police department's budget, so they are able to perform their duties of PUBLIC SAFTEY. We are the public and we want to be kept safe! Staffing has been reduced while at the same time, the population has increased and calls for service have increased. This simply doesn't make any sense. Every citizen wants a safe and secure home and community. We need to hire more officers to keep our community safe. We also need to give our officers a raise so that their salary is just compensation for their sacrifice and service. We need to show our officers we value their service and sacrifice. Lacking this, we will continue to see record retirements, overworked and demoralized officers and a community that descends into lawlessness. Why would anyone want to work for a city that does not support them? Why would anyone want to live in a lawless community? The safety of our community depends upon your swift reversal of this recent trend of budget cuts and devaluation of our Santa Rosa Police Officers.

As a taxpayer and 40-year resident of Santa Rosa, I must speak out and demand that our city council and city manager show the respect and support that our public safety officers deserve by restoring the budget and personnel and materials needed to run the department as the Chief sees fit. Running the department is his job. Giving him the tools to run it (the money) is yours. So do your job so he can do his! And finally, a question: Have you gone mad? Unless you alter your course, you are heading down a path that will turn our city into a wasteland of lawlessness where parks and streets and stores and homes are not safe. Is this your vision for our beloved city? It's not mine.

Respectfully,

Rose Sofranko

From: Public Safety Subcommittee Comment

To: <u>City Clerk</u>

Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] City Council Comment on Agenda Item 3.1 / Police Staffing Study Session January 26 & 27,

2021

**Date:** Tuesday, January 26, 2021 8:14:48 AM

From: Elizabeth Warren <ejw@sonic.net> Sent: Monday, January 25, 2021 4:57 PM

**To:** Public Safety Subcommittee Comment <PSS-comment@srcity.org>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] City Council Comment on Agenda Item 3.1 / Police Staffing Study Session

January 26 & 27, 2021

I hope you can attach this to the correct agenda / meeting item.

January 25, 2021

RE: City Council Comment on Agenda Item 3.1/ Police Staffing Study Session

Council Members:

I'm addressing Agenda Item #3.1, for the City Council Meeting of January 26, 2021, regarding Santa Rosa Police Department Staffing and the Police Staffing Study Session.

I'm writing to give input for the Police Staffing Study Session and to convey my support for our Santa Rosa Police Department.

First: I must register my outrage at the lack of support our elected city council and appointed city manager have given the Santa Rosa Police Officers. The minute you bowed to the pressure from special interest groups and withdrew your support from local law enforcement, you stopped acting in the best interest of our community and you violated the trust of your constituents. This is not a course of action I support or voted for.

Second: I am asking for you to fully restore the police department's budget, so they are able to perform their duties of PUBLIC SAFTEY. We are the public and we want to be kept safe! Staffing has been reduced while at the same time, the population has increased and calls for service have increased. This simply doesn't make any sense. Every citizen wants a safe and secure home and community. We need to hire more officers to keep our community safe. We also need to give our officers a raise so that their salary is just compensation for their sacrifice and service. We need to show our officers we value their service and sacrifice. Lacking this, we will continue to see record retirements, overworked and demoralized officers and a community that descends into lawlessness. Why would anyone want to work for a city that does not support them? Why would anyone want to live in a lawless community? The safety of our community depends upon your swift reversal of this recent trend of budget cuts and devaluation of our Santa Rosa Police Officers.

As a taxpayer and 50-year resident of Santa Rosa, I must speak out and demand that our city council and city manager show the respect and support that our public safety officers deserve by restoring the budget and personnel and materials needed to run the department as the Chief sees fit. Running the department is his job. Giving him the tools to run it (the money) is yours. So do your job so he can do his! And finally, a question: Have you gone mad? Unless you alter your course, you are heading down a path that will turn our city into a wasteland of lawlessness where parks and streets and stores and homes are not safe. Is this your vision for our beloved city? It's not mine.

Respectfully,

Elizabeth Warren

From: <u>Public Safety Subcommittee Comment</u>

To: <u>City Clerk</u>

**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] SR Police Staffing Study Session, January 26, 2021

**Date:** Tuesday, January 26, 2021 8:16:45 AM

From: Cparegalia < cparegalia@aol.com> Sent: Monday, January 25, 2021 4:45 PM

**To:** Public Safety Subcommittee Comment <PSS-comment@srcity.org> **Subject:** [EXTERNAL] SR Police Staffing Study Session, January 26, 2021

Dear Santa Rosa Mayor and City Council Members,

My husband and I would like to add our comments regarding the upcoming study session and discussions of the Santa Rosa Police Department.

Chuck and I have been residents of Santa Rosa since the early 1970's and are proud to call Santa Rosa our home and also the home of our daughter and her husband. We've enjoyed our career's, homes, family, volunteer work, neighborhoods and Church's in one of the best places to live in California. Sadly in recent year's and most notably this past summer in our own Downtown public square, lawlessness, violence, destruction and disobedience have occurred that threaten the very safety and security of our community. Let's add to that the Covid-19 pandemic, fires (multiple), evacuations, power outages, lock-downs, business cut backs or closing and now considering a 2021 drought and water shortages.

I mention all this in order to say, we **strongly support** the brave Men and Women of our Police Department and all the public safety staff. They do an amazing job given what additional impacts we have here in Santa Rosa and all of Sonoma County. We strongly urge you to support the following:

- \* Refund the 1 million to the Police budget.
- \* Hire enough additional officers to adequately police Santa Rosa and not over burden our existing officers.
- \* Let's pay them well, reconsider raises, we want to hold on to our officers. We also strongly urge our City leaders to vocally support the efforts of our officers who provide Law and Order. Without Law, we have no order. Thank you,

Chuck and Patty Regalia

From: Denise Hill

To: <u>CityCouncilListPublic</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Response to Council Comments on Item 3.1 from 1/26 Council Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021 7:34:17 PM

## Dear Mayor and City Council members,

I couldn't be more impressed with our city council after hearing your comments at the end of study session #3.1 on Santa Rosa Police Department staffing. The subject of police funding is so polarized creating lots of land mines, but each of you who spoke managed to avoid them speaking eloquently and civilly and from the heart. You didn't fan the flames of divisiveness, but instead, suggested they were a campfire we could all gather around to get to know our community members (including those working for our police department) better. Keep up the good work.

Best,

Denise Hill