

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Stevenson, Kirsten](#); [Merulla, Sam](#); [Jackson, Tom](#); [Office of the Mayor](#)
Subject: Important topics for the Hamilton Police Services Board meeting on June 11th
Date: Tuesday, June 2, 2020 7:33:31 AM

Hello,

With the Hamilton Police Services Board meeting coming up on June 11th I believe these are important topics that need to be discussed and resolved:

Budget

The HPS has been running a surplus (\$1.5M last year alone) and has been allowed to keep that surplus. This funding would be better put to use if we directed it to local nonprofits working on reducing crime and building community [1]. It would also be a benefit to direct more funding toward mental health resources, increasing the number of mental health first responders available [2].

Body Cameras

I understand body cameras are a topic that is often discussed. Budget constraints are usually listed as the reason for not implementing their use, but as we can see from the budget surpluses, this seems false.

Even though the cameras are not being used at this time I encourage the board to start working on a written policy for their use now. Have the plan in place so when they are implemented (which they should be) all necessary policies are in place to help protect both the public and the officers using them. A starting point for what to include in a body camera policy can be found here:

<https://www.joincampaignzero.org/film-the-police>

Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns.
You will find links to be references below.

Kim Dunlop

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References:

1. Community and the Crime Decline: The Causal Effect of Local Nonprofits on Violent Crime, <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0003122417736289>

2. When Mental-Health Experts, Not Police, Are the First Responders, <https://www.wsj.com/articles/when-mental-health-experts-not-police-are-the-first-responders-1543071600>