

Baumb, Nelly

From: Karen Kesner <karen.kesner@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 6:29 PM
To: Council, City; Patrik Westin
Subject: 2nd Request, please: Budget for Palo Alto Childrens Theatre (PACT)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear City Council,

We understand the final budget decision is June 22. We are writing again to respectfully ask for your re-consideration and support of PACT budget for the upcoming year to support the breath of opportunity, development and creativity theatre offers. Severe budget cuts discontinues a lot of the incredible opportunity theatre offers our children that include virtual and hybrid programs and loss of key staff members in this unfortunate pandemic where interaction and brian stimulation is so, so important.

Please may we ask that you review the proposal sent to the Council by FOPACT which helps maintain more needed staff and relies on community donations and fundraising to help with the budget.

We are happy to provide any further feedback. Do not hesitate to reach out.

Kind Regards,
Karen Kesner
Patrik Westin

On Wed, May 27, 2020 at 12:46 PM Karen Kesner <karen.kesner@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear City Council,

We have respectively asked Kimberly Thacker to keep us informed of City Council review of Children's Theatre budget. Our 9 year old daughter has been involved in classes and a play at PACT for the last 2 seasons. She is enrolled for a July summer camp and planning her next school year entering 4th grade at Walter Hays to say very involved in theater. She has been so inspired by the incredible staff and program she is passionate to continue her pursuit. I am sure you have received a lot of feedback how much theatre helps with the development of children - their confidence, memorization, teaming, managing when they are *not* cast for a part, and inspiring their school learning - writing stories for plays, sharing their stories with classmates. Children's Theatre has been life changing for our daughters confidence, and passion.

We saw the news the morning under the revised budget, the Children's Theatre will see major cuts. <https://www.paloaltoonline.com/news/2020/05/26/facing-budget-shortfall-palo-alto-agrees-to-cut-more-than-70-positions>

We are emailing our plea, *please!*

First, **thank you** to the Council for adding back in the budget for performances and for all the hard work the City Council is doing during this unfortunate pandemic. We do very much appreciate the City Council support of the Children's Theatre.

We are concerned the high level of staff cuts will not allow the theatre to continue in creating and implementing virtual programs during these tough times when they are so needed for our children. These cuts will make future programs and performances difficult because we need each of their unique talents and areas of expertise, and will put artists out of work during a time of economic crisis where they will have extreme difficulty finding other positions - plus we may lose them in the mean time when the budget recovers (hopefully) after the pandemic and we want them back.

Please may we ask that you review the proposal sent to the Council by FOPACT which helps maintain more needed staff and relies on community donations and fundraising to help with the budget.

Do not hesitate to reach out for any further feedback about the positive significant impact Palo Alto Children's Theatre has had on our daughter, and the wonderful support she has experienced through the classes, program, and staff.

Kind Regards,

Karen Kesner
Patrik Westin

Baumb, Nelly

From: Elizabeth Kim <kmevel703@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 8:23 AM
To: Council, City
Subject: Palo Alto Children's Theater

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

I'd like to strongly ask you to re-consider funding for the Children's Theater!!!
This is the third email I am writing because of how important this institution is to Palo Alto!
Elizabeth Kim
169 Tasso Street
Palo Alto, CA 94301

Baumb, Nelly

From: Anant Singh <anant@acubedadvisory.com>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 9:23 PM
To: Council, City
Subject: Palo Alto Children's Theater: FOPACT Request

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear Council Member,

My name is Anant Singh. I am a Palo Alto resident and President of the Board for the Friends of the Palo Alto Children's Theatre (FOPACT).

FOPACT has worked in a public/private partnership with the City of Palo Alto for more than 50 years to support the Palo Alto Children's Theatre; providing volunteer help and funds for outreach, creative projects, and teaching artists not included in the City budget. FOPACT is proud to work with Children's Theatre staff to produce performing arts programs that serve 64,000 + community members each year. Annually increased revenue, participation numbers and award-winning programs are all marked indicators of organizational success.

During an average season, the Children's Theatre structure is divided into four programming elements: 1) Main Stage Season, a season of seven professionally realized theatrical productions, on both indoor and outdoor stages; 2) Playhouse Production Series, featuring local teen performers, presenting familiar fairy-tales for pre-k audience members; 3) Outreach Initiatives, serving all twelve Palo Alto Unified School District elementary schools with Dance in Schools programs for K-2 students and on-site theatrical productions for grades 3 – 5; 4) Low-cost and subsidized education programs, with classes and camps for youth age 3 and up.

In March, as soon as Spring Classes and Productions had to be postponed and canceled due to the Covid-19 crisis, the Children's Theatre staff pivoted, creating virtual classes and events online, providing their community with program continuity and support. Now, the Children's Theatre is currently serving more than 800 community members each week with virtual performing arts classes. In addition to the classes, which include the Dance in Schools classes for all K-2 PAUSD Elementary School students, the theatre has multiple workshops in progress, including a collaborative script writing project with Children's Theatre participants, virtual Playhouse Productions with teens, and FOPACT has commissioned multiple professional Bay Area Artists to produce original works of theatre for young audiences.

We understand current conditions and corresponding budget challenges. FOPACT is also looking at a year of significant revenue loss, as most of our funding comes from individual donations which are tied directly to the theatre's live performances, as well as advertising and concessions revenue, and in-person fundraising events. Though extremely difficult at this time when live events and fundraising activities are not possible, FOPACT is hoping to work with the City of Palo Alto to maintain an important subset of the Children's Theatre's core staff; the professionals who are critical to the foundational programs that we provide to the community. To this end, we will pledge to help offset the City's revenue shortfalls through a direct donation to the City of \$90,000 and in-kind support of \$150,000 toward non-personnel program costs. The theatre staff is equally committed to reduce program-related expenses, which will enable us to continue class and camp programs, as well as produce 2 Main Stage productions and the 2020-21 Playhouse Series (with social distancing measures in place).

However, the theatre cannot continue to meet the community demand for their programs if their staff is reduced by the nearly 50% that is now planned. The current reduction to the Children's Theatre budget is \$700,000 from a base budget of \$1.7 million, and a reduction of FTE from 12.66 (6 full time, and 6.6 part-time) down to 7.16 (5 full time and 2.16 part-time), which is insufficient to maintain the theatre's vital core functions, whether virtual or in-person. With our pledge of \$240,000 of support, we are hoping that the Council will consider restoring 2.52 FTE to the Children's Theatre staff (1.0 in full-time and 1.52 in part-time), at a cost of approximately \$190,000, to maintain the programs that continue to serve thousands of Palo Alto youth and their families, year-round.

Thank you for your generous service to the City of Palo Alto, and for your time in considering this proposal.

Please feel free to let me know if you have any questions.
You can also call me anytime at 650-269-7865

Best regards,
Anant Singh
Redacted

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/anantsingh1/>

Baumb, Nelly

From: Vered Maor Semel <vsemel@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 9:37 AM
To: Council, City
Subject: Children Theater - so important to our community

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear Council board members,

I would like to urge you to please reconsider the funding and cuts which are almost half of the theatre's budget. The theatre is so important to our kids' lives, including virtual and hybrid programs during the pandemic and also important as part of our community. We are all concerned about losing staff who all have unique experiences and need your support to continue this wonderful program.

Thank you,
Vered Semel

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Redacted

Baumb, Nelly

From: Ella Thomson <ehthomson007@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 9:32 AM
To: Council, City
Subject: Palo Alto Children's Theater Funding

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

To whom it may concern,

My name is Ella Thomson, and for the past five years, I have participated in programs at the Palo Alto Children's Theater regularly. I recently heard that the theater may receive a cut in funding, meaning there wouldn't be performances for at least two years. I advise you change your decision.

The Palo Alto Children's Theater provides children of all ages a place to perform. Unlike many school productions, Children's Theater performances are well-organized, and actors must attend performances for two or three weeks. The experience is much different and actors meet people they wouldn't at school, as well as learning valuable lessons about acting. For two year's worth of eight-year-olds to miss performing at PACT would be terrible; so many kids would not experience the wonderful place that is the Palo Alto Children's Theater.

The Children's Theater is not only for actors. There are stage crew members, who control things that are usually run by adults in school plays, and learn how to use things like fly rails, which might not even be available at their schools. There are also ushers, children who hand out programs, check tickets, and clean up after the audience leaves. The audience members also have great experiences. I remember as a young child, we went to see a performance in the outdoor theater. I almost instantly knew that I wanted to act at the theater, and, when I was finally eight, even counted down the days on my calendar until my first audition. It is often from seeing PACT performances that kids are inspired and hope to be a part of them one day themselves. If for two years people cannot see these performances, some children may never learn of the wonders of acting.

Finally, PACT is like a second home to so many people. The adults who work there are caring, kind, funny, and break the barriers between adults and children. The actors and stage crew members always make you feel welcome, and it would be upsetting not to see them because there are no plays or musicals to participate in. The memories I have from PACT are so interesting, meaningful, and funny, and I would like to have time to make some more.

In short, the Palo Alto Children's Theater deserves its usual funding because it provide children with an amazing place to be. The performances are well above school-level, and it is not only a place for actors. The friendships, memories, and experiences it brings to so many children are worth the funding, and certainly many others would agree. Thank you for your consideration.

Best,
Ella Thomson

Baumb, Nelly

From: Yair Blumenfeld <yairb@stanford.edu>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 6:50 AM
To: Council, City
Subject: Supporting the Palo Alto Children's Theatre

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear council,

As you are considering budget cuts in the coming months I strongly request that you maintain the funding for the Palo Alto Children's Theatre. The theatre affects so many families in Palo Alto, and is a cultural gem for both attendees and the children who perform there.

Sincerely,

Yair

Yair J. Blumenfeld, MD
Associate Professor
Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine
Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology
Stanford University School of Medicine

Director, Fetal Therapy
Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford

Baumb, Nelly

From: sherry heller <Sherry_Mark@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 7:47 PM
To: Council, City
Subject: Palo Alto Children's Theatre

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear Palo Alto City Councilmembers,

I am writing to ask you to please find a way to redirect additional City funds to save our Palo Alto Children's Theatre. While I was heartened to hear that some funds had been reinstated, the current cuts still planned will be devastating to this organization. These drastic cuts jeopardize the theatre's ability to continue creating and offering virtual programs, which are lifelines right now for many creative youth who have been forced into near isolation. Furthermore, they will severely hamper the theatre's ability to bring back live performances once it is safe, due to the loss of critical staff who may not be available to come back. I understand that FOPACT has submitted a proposal that can help maintain more staff via increased community funding. I hope that you will fully consider this proposal and do everything possible to help keep this treasured community asset intact.

Thank you,
Sherry Heller

Sent from my iPad

Baumb, Nelly

From: Michele Wang <meeshwang@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 6:24 PM
To: Clerk, City
Cc: Council, City
Subject: Question - Will the City Council Approve the Proposal from the Friends of the Palo Alto Children's Theatre (FOPACT)?

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Hi, My name is Michele Wang and I've lived in Palo Alto for 20 years. I have raised my 2 children here and I am a proud resident.

I am also a proud Board Member of the Friends of the Palo Alto Children's Theatre (FOPACT). Sadly, in the latest budget the city has proposed to cut 41% of the operating budget for the Palo Alto Children's Theatre (PACT). If this is the case, the Children's Theatre will NOT be able to do all the amazing programming planned to help our youth feel connected and heard. The Palo Alto Children's Theatre will be losing over 5 FTE employees.

However, The FOPACT have a PROPOSAL. If the city restores \$190K (or just over 2.5 FTE), then FOPACT will be willing to give \$90K back to the city and offer \$150K for direct support (non-personnel program costs) to the PACT.

It's a true win win proposal. We have submitted this, but we feel like FOPACT is not being heard. We want to partner with the city and help keep the PACT running to serve our community and youth.

I urge you to look into this proposal and please restore a small portion of the funds so that we can keep this valuable resource serving our community.

Thank you,

Michele Wang

Redacted

Baumb, Nelly

From: Lydia Callaghan <lydiacallaghan2011@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 2:46 PM
To: Council, City
Subject: Please reconsider the funding cuts to Palo Alto Children's Theatre

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear Palo Alto City Council,

I am on the board of the Friends of the Palo Alto Children's Theatre. I have lived in Palo Alto for 10 years. I have 15 year old twin girls who have been participating in PACT since they were in the 4th grade.

Please reconsider the funding cuts, which are almost half of the Theatre's budget.

The Theatre provides community, support, skill-building, and growth opportunities for a unique and diverse group of children who are not served by typical Parks and Recreation amenities. Furthermore, PACT has assembled an incredibly talented staff with years of experience and important bonds with the children and teens that participate in the program. It would be extremely difficult to rebuild a team like this if we were to lose them.

Many thanks,
Lydia

--

Lydia Callaghan
Redacted

Founder,
Bouclier

<http://www.bouclievisors.com>

Baumb, Nelly

From: LOIS HANCOCK <loisdw@me.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 5:56 PM
To: Council, City
Subject: Proposed Reduction of Fire Department Staffing

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

To City of Palo Alto City Council Members,

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposed reduction in the City of Palo Alto fire staffing. I strongly echo the sentiments written below in quotations and urge Palo Alto City Council to consider the safety of our public as the first and most important priority in this city.

I STRONGLY URGE YOU TO KEEP OUR FIRE DEPARTMENTS FULLY STAFFED AND TO FIND OTHER PLACES TO CUT BACK THAT DO NOT AFFECT THE SAFETY OF OUR CITIZENS!

And, please support our police department. Those officers do an outstanding job keeping City of Palo Alto citizens safe and protected while risking their lives every day and night. We need them! Our police department is vital. The Palo Alto PD is outstanding at de-escalation and serving our community. They need the full-fledge support of the City Council please!

Sincerely,
Lois Hancock

"What is going on here? In College Terrace we have had to fight to keep station #2 viable as the city has tried to drop it in the past. This is one example where fire personnel fight fires in the hills, at the dish and are equipped with Hazmat technology to address toxic accidents in Stanford's Research Park. With seventeen acres of new housing, adjacent to College Terrace that Stanford Junior faculty own, the need for the fire house has increased. This station is just one example that is being threatened by the city's prioritizing Capital Improvement Projects (CPI) over SAFETY. The pedestrian and bike bridge contract should and must be deferred until the funding returns to the city's coffers. There is an existing tunnel that already provides access. Why are the Capital Improvement Projects not renegotiated? Some argue that there are perhaps sweetheart contracts where staff in the city are familiar with contractors and relationships develop whereby the city staff do not want to 'let them down.' The funding saved from NOT constructing this nonessential project could be applied to keeping our town safe and retaining ESSENTIAL fire fighters and EMS personnel. What is a brownout? The city is proposing reducing staff in ALL fire stations. In today's New York Times you can read about the increase in temperatures this summer. Last year the hot days did not end until well into November. This reduction in staff will put a stranglehold on fire personnel's response times now at approximately eight minutes. There would be an increase to at least fifteen minutes with staff cuts. This proposal to have rolling brownouts puts all at risk. If brownouts occur then the firewomen and firemen cannot do their jobs. Another proposal, developed by city staff's Jonathan Lait, is to not require accreditation of inspectors! This is penny wise pound foolish. We need effective and certified fire inspection personnel. "

Baumb, Nelly

From: Pat Burt <patburt11@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 11:45 AM
To: Council, City
Subject: Item 32 - 6/22 Proposed FY21 Budget Comments

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear Council Members,

As you make your decisions on cuts to public safety and community services, please consider the following points, including how recent developments support the position that many of the cuts are unnecessary. The city can retain a record Capital Improvement Budget for this year, while saving millions of dollars, without making severe cuts to services that define our community.

Service vs Capital Priorities. Revenue has crashed, most greatly from the loss of TOT income which is the primary funding stream for the General Capital Plan, yet less than 6% of the cuts are from capital expenditures. The General Capital Budget was only reduced from the pre-pandemic April budget of \$176.8M to \$174.4 today, while the General Fund Budget was reduced by \$41M.

- Non-critical Capital Projects. On May 12 the CC directed staff to cut ~\$2M from the Capital Plan. The May 26 revised budget actually cut a total \$10.6M from various capital projects. However, \$8M of that was added then back to other capital projects with the assertion that all of the revised capital spending was the minimum essential spending. How did \$8M added to projects become essential during that two week period?
- Public Safety and Community Service Restorations. Key public safety and community services can be restored by adding back the remaining \$5M GF transfer while retaining the \$7.6M TOT based transfer. Cuts to public safety and community services, including the city shuttle and Children's Theatre, can be largely reversed, retaining valuable longtime employees and the critical services they provide.
 - Budgeting for Anticipated Police Reforms. The budget should include placeholder costs for two key police reform positions that would replace police as the primary interface for non-criminal, non-violent emergency dispatches. First, a clinician to be the lead interface for mental health 911 calls. Second, a social service staffer for homeless, domestic disputes, and certain other non-violent incidents. The CC has recently committed in concept to these sorts of well-established reforms, but the budget lacks any funding to fulfill those commitments. Without funding, commitments to better practices ring hollow.
- Encumbered Funding. Only a minority of Capital Project funds are from grant funding or restricted city sources and most of the restricted city funds can be reallocated to other categorical capital projects while most grants would be allowed to be delayed by funding agencies under the declared local and state emergencies.
- Capital Project Cost Reductions and Re-appropriations.
 - Re-appropriations. Each year, millions of dollars that are budgeted for capital projects, but are not spent due to project delays or other reasons. This year, a record \$88M was re-appropriated from the FY20 Capital Budget to the proposed FY21 CIP. Rather than implementing severe service cuts, a more realistic expenditure projection would result in a lower Capital Budget more than allow rescinding the \$5M in GF transfer and restoration of services.
 - Re-bidding at Lower Costs. The record FY21 CIP is based on estimates reflecting the, until recently, highly inflated construction sector. The current economic downturn is already demonstrating significant cost reductions from new bids, most recently an 11% reduction, with greater reduction likely over the coming year. A modest slowdown in the pace of a portion of the projects would not only push-out some

of the expenditure timelines beyond FY21, but it would also result in many millions in cost savings, compensating for a portion of the declining revenue.

Regards,

Pat Burt

Baumb, Nelly

From: Karlette Warner <karlette46@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 2:31 PM
To: Council, City; Shikada, Ed
Subject: PAFD service cuts

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Good afternoon.

I understand that due to budget issues, Palo Alto may lose some weekend and evening fire and emergency medical support services. I'm concerned about this, and would ask that you look at reducing other costs (such as postponing capital improvements) to ensure we maintain our current level of fire and emergency medical service.

Thank you.

Karlette Warner
College Ave
Palo Alto

Baumb, Nelly

From: Mary B. <mab9999@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 12:09 PM
To: Council, City
Subject: DON'T CLOSE THE FIRE STATION!!

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear Mayor Fine and Members of the Council,

I was distressed to learn that the City Council is considering reducing the fire/EMS personnel at the fire station on Hanover Street, between Page Mill and California Avenue due to financial concerns, while allowing such non-essential capital improvement projects like the bridge over 101 to remain in the budget.

Such a crazy, topsy-turvy sense of priorities makes me question the judgment of Palo Alto's leaders! I'm actually quite shocked. What can you be thinking? Are you seriously willing to forgo the safety of Palo Altos with a reduction staff and brown-outs, and even the closure of a station?

The station is the nearest to the Dish, and to open space and we are in the middle of a seemingly never-ending decade long drought! College Terrace has some of the densest housing around, and much the same could be said for the other areas which the fire station serves. Further, there are now hundreds more residential units in the new Stanford housing project between Page Mill and California Avenue. The station serves a huge area: not only the surrounding area, but also Stanford University and all the way up to Skyline. And response times are already known to be delayed at times! Additionally it provides service to the Research Park along and south of California Avenue and Page Mill and is prepared with HAZMAT training and gear to respond to the needs of those companies, some of which work with toxic chemicals.

This station and its personnel is absolutely!

Don't do this. Shelve unnecessary capital improvement projects until they are affordable, and do the right thing by keeping the station open. It's so obviously the right thing, how can you not?

Thank you for your efforts in these challenging times.

Mary Bartholomay

Baumb, Nelly

From: Susan Phillips <susan@mrsmoskowitz.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 9:48 PM
To: Council, City
Subject: Do Not lower Childrens Theater budget

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

As a resident of Palo Alto since 1975 I have been active in watching my children benefit from all of the fantastic programs at Children's Theatre. Initially they attended the supper time plays in the summer, then participated in the outreach plays at their school and eventually the plays at Lucille Stern. I became an active volunteer and supported the theater as they needed volunteers. I am extremely disappointed to hear of the proposed Budget cuts. Not all children want to work on computers or are active in sports. You can find other places to cut the budget but not this important part of a Palo Alto.

Sincerely

Susan Phillips Moskowitz
1941 Tasso St.
Palo Alto 94301
susan@mrsmoskowitz.com

Baumb, Nelly

From: Sally Heaton <x40trout@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 9:07 PM
To: Council, City; Shikada, Ed
Subject: City Budget

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

My husband and I have lived in College Terrace since 1977. I still remember fires in 1984 in Palo Alto hills where there is only road for people to evacuate and for the fire department to access. Since then, there have been numerous fires in the hills.

The fire station on Hanover Street has been a source of comfort for our neighborhood. Every few years we have to write letters to City Council to keep that station open. I was raised to believe that the city taxes we pay are for essentials to keep our community functioning i.e.: police, schools, utilities, libraries, fire stations, etc. Anything beyond that is fine if the city budget can afford it. I implore you to remember this as you make your final decisions. Please do the right thing!

Thank you for your consideration.

Sally Heaton
Sent from my iPad

Baumb, Nelly

From: Annette Ross <port2103@att.net>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 6:33 PM
To: Council, City
Cc: Shikada, Ed
Subject: Budget

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

It's a given that no one in town is likely to be 100% satisfied with the final FY20-21 budget. I hope you have your ears to the ground and are tuned into what residents are saying. What I hear: retain services, particularly those related to fire suppression, EMS transport, and fire inspection (the last two generate revenue) and put capital projects on hold. There is no urgency to the capital projects, the City Manager can use Emergency Powers to defer them legally, and why would you want to put Palo Alto in a vulnerable situation such as what happened in Oakland's Ghost Ship? And why would you even think about simultaneously opening Foothills and cutting fire suppression? Safety First. That, not Build First, should always be the standard.

Baumb, Nelly

From: Pria Graves <priag@birketthouse.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 3:07 PM
To: Council, City
Subject: Budget concerns

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Mayor Fine and members of the Council -

I'm very concerned the Council, faced with a revenue shortfall, appears to be intending to cut essential city services rather than delaying expensive Capital improvement projects.

Discussion of a "brownout flexible staffing model" for fire/EMS is especially worrying since it would result in longer response times and a reduced ability to handle simultaneous calls.

When someone needs emergency medical care or when a fire starts in a dense residential area such as my own in College Terrace, every second counts! Relying on mutual aid or County services could cost lives. And if a conflagration gets out of control in our dangerous fire seasons, it may not be possible to stop it! All of this puts residents' lives in jeopardy.

Many of the proposed capital improvement projects fall into the "nice to have" category. As a serious bicyclist, the Highway 101 bridge would be great... but not essential just now. Similarly, the new public safety building or the rebuilt fire station at Mitchell Park are all good things, but not likely to threaten the lives of residents if put on hold for the time being.

I implore you to prioritize public safety over capital improvement projects.

Thank you for listening.

Pria Graves
2130 Yale Street

Baumb, Nelly

From: Ann Balin <alafargue@mac.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 4:40 PM
To: Council, City
Subject: Retain our fire and EMS personnel

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear Mayor Fine & Council Members,

These are unusual and stressful times. Constituents understand the pressure you are under to work with the budget demands as you work to do the right thing by your fellow Palo Altons. I want you as public servants to reflect and do the hard work necessary to reject cutting funds for our safety services including fire and EMS personnel. The potential cuts in funding are not prudent as the constituents have already observed decreases in this area concerning safety.

it is not appropriate nor wise to authorize brownouts or scrap a fire station at this time. Should you vote to do either then the response time would increase to fifteen minutes from eight minutes. Staff is already lean in the fire houses due to the aforementioned decreases in funding from earlier budget cycles.

In the case of the number two station located on Hanover street there is additional dense housing from the University Terrace development where Stanford's Junior faculty reside. This fire house also serves research park where there are companies that use toxic chemicals including CPI. This fire station is fitted with HAZMAT equipment to handle potential accidents. This station also serves Palo Alto up to Skyline and Stanford University campus as well.

Now we are entering the ninth year of drought. In the New York Times an article this week details the increase in temperatures throughout the world. I remember well the fire at the dish in the early nineties. The fire season can begin in May and go throughout November. We need certainty that we can address the hazards of the fire season as it lengthens each year.

Therefore, please use your imagination and do the right thing by eliminating nonessential Capital Improvement Projects at this time. Please do not allow the bridge over 101 to be constructed. We are living in a time where this contract should be delayed until our funding is returned to a healthier status. There is already a tunnel that provides the necessary function for cyclists and pedestrians. There are other Capital Improvement Projects that can be tabled as they are nonessential as well.

Fire fighters and EMS personnel ARE essential. The community requires you to provide us with safety services which benefit all Palo Altons.

Sincerely,

Ann Lafargue Balin

Baumb, Nelly

From: Lauren Janas <laurenmjanas@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 1:48 PM
To: Council, City
Subject: Police funding

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Hi,

I am writing to advocate in favor of the comprehensive reform measure described in [this document](#) including evaluating how we can use some of the PAPD funds to provide additional funding for community and human/social services.

Coming from the tech industry, I like research and data, so here is some data - [investing in alternatives to police reduces crime](#). Every 10 additional organizations in a city reduces the murder rate by 9%, reduces violent crime rate by 6% and reduces property crime by 4%. You can also [read about successes in Oregon where 1 in 5 911 calls are diverted to mental health first responders](#), or [similar efforts in Austin](#).

Palo Alto does not need a mural right now. It needs change. The city of Palo Alto is known for being a center of innovation - let's show the world what the future of our communities and policing can look like by being a model of this future. Why do we believe that people with guns are necessary to handle traffic violations, or mental health crises, or domestic abuse? I believe the needs of our community would be better served by moving many of the responsibilities that are currently handled by the police to individuals and services specifically trained to handle those situations. It starts with the courage to advocate for meaningful change, and I encourage you to step up during this historic moment.

Learn more:

[ACLU on why defunding the police will make us safer](#)

[NYT on what defunding the police would look like](#)

freethemall2020

SOMEONE IS BEHAVING ERRATICALLY & IN HARM'S WAY.

IMAGINE...

...TEXTING A NUMBER & AN UNARMED URGENT RESPONDER TRAINED IN BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH COMES WITHIN 5 MINUTES.

AN HOUR LATER THAT PERSON IS SAFE & GETTING THE SUPPORT THEY NEED.

isn't that public safety?

freethemall2020

SOMEONE IS SELLING DRUGS TO YOUTH WHO ARE OVER DOSING.

IMAGINE...

...BEING CONNECTED TO A SUBSTANCE USE SERVICE THAT INTERVENES IN HARMFUL DRUG TRANSACTIONS.

YOUTH ARE SUPPORTED IN HEALTHY OUTCOMES & THE SELLER TAKES ACCOUNTABILITY FOR HARM.

isn't that public safety?

freethemall2020

YOU ARE EXPERIENCING INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE.

IMAGINE...

...TEXTING A NUMBER & A TRAUMA INFORMED CRISIS INTERVENTION SPECIALIST MEETS YOU IN A SAFE PLACE.

AN HOUR LATER YOU ARE WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE A PLAN THAT WILL KEEP YOU SAFE LONG TERM.

isn't that public safety?

freethemall2020

YOUR FRIENDS ARE INTOXICATED & FIGHTING BUT YOU DON'T WANT THEM TO GET IN TROUBLE.

IMAGINE...

...YOU CALL +311 AND A CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM COMES TO YOUR DOOR.

1 HOUR LATER, YOUR FRIENDS ARE SLEEPING IT OFF AT HOME.

isn't that public safety?

freethemall2020

YOU ARE EXPERIENCING A MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS & AFRAID

IMAGINE...

...YOU CALL +311 & A FIRST RESPONDER TRAINED IN MENTAL HEALTH COMES TO YOUR DOOR.

1 HOUR LATER, YOU ARE IN A SAFE PLACE WITH YOUR CONSENT, WITH PLANS FOR FOLLOW UP CARE.

isn't that public safety?

freethemall2020

YOU DON'T REALIZE, BUT YOUR BRAKE LIGHTS AREN'T WORKING.

IMAGINE...

...A CITY EMPLOYEE SIGNALS FOR YOU TO PULL OVER & SAYS, "HEY - HOW ABOUT I REPLACE THOSE LIGHTS FOR YOU RIGHT HERE SO NO ONE GETS HURT?"

AN HOUR LATER, BOTH LIGHTS WORK & YOU'RE AT HOME.

isn't that public safety?

freethemall2020

SOMEONE IS TALKING TO THEMSELVES ON THE BUS.

IMAGINE...

...THEY RIDE THE BUS WITHOUT BEING BOTHERED.

AN HOUR LATER, THEY ARE AT THEIR DESTINATION AND GOING ON WITH THEIR DAY.

isn't that public safety?

freethemall2020

SOME FOLKS ARE SLEEPING ON BENCHES IN THE PARK.

IMAGINE...

...A CITY EMPLOYEE COMES BY & CHECKS IN TO SEE IF THEY NEED A PLACE TO SLEEP, FOOD, WATER, OR HEALTH CARE.

AN HOUR LATER, THOSE WHO WANT A DIFFERENT PLACE TO SLEEP HAVE ONE.

isn't that public safety?

Thank you,
 Lauren Janas, Palo Alto resident

Baumb, Nelly

From: Chris Saccheri <chris.saccheri@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 2:29 PM
To: Council, City
Cc: CTRA Board To Board
Subject: Letter from the CTRA re: Essential Fire Services

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

June 19, 2020

Dear City Council,


As the Council finalizes its FY 2021 budget, the College Terrace Residents' Association (CTRA) urges the Council to delay expensive capital improvement projects rather than cut essential city services, especially fire department staffing.

The "brownout flexible staffing model" currently proposed for the fire department is especially troubling, given that it would result in longer response times and a reduced ability to handle simultaneous calls. Every second counts in an emergency and relying on backfill from a station across town, or worse, elsewhere in the county, puts residents' lives in jeopardy. And with California's dangerous fire seasons, full staffing for EMS and fire suppression alike is critical.

These fire department positions could be funded by delaying any of the large capital improvement projects currently planned, such as the Highway 101 bicycle bridge, new public safety building, or rebuilt fire station at Mitchell Park. These projects are important, but not urgent, especially when compared to ensuring adequate emergency response times from our fire department.

We implore the council to prioritize public safety over capital improvement projects.

Sincerely,

Chris Saccheri 

President, College Terrace Residents' Association

Baumb, Nelly

From: HEIDI SCHWENK <heidi29@me.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 7:38 PM
To: City Mgr; Council, City
Subject: Moral Change

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Hello City Manager, City Council and City Mayor,

I watched june2020.org today, June 20, 2020, the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival.

There are so many Americans and Immigrants, approximately 140 million, who are presently living in poverty. Today, I learned about the disproportionate injustices impoverished people from all skin colors, races and cultures have to live with daily for their entire lives. It is unbelievable how our nation has mistreated and held people back when they have tried to better themselves and their lives. I encourage all of you to listen to the entire recorded program. My hope is the City of Palo Alto will get involved with the Poor People's Campaign and show the entire community that they matter.

I encourage that moral change start at City Hall and immediately be addressed in the Palo Alto Unified School District. The entire District's Administration and Teachers need to learn how to encourage children from every ethnicity that they are capable of learning and can achieve their goals. No child or adult should be homeless, living in a car or in a tent. No child should go to school hungry or go home to an empty house or to a community that is dangerous. No child should be told that they are a slow learner so they should not try and drop down to a lower math lane. No child (especially black boys and girls) and other ethnicities should ever be told that they aren't smart enough to achieve. Every child should be treated with respect and with a positive attitude. (Even one of my son's was told by a Paly College Counselor, while I was attending a parent and student meeting, that he shouldn't apply to certain colleges because she didn't think he would get in with his grades and lack of sports, music or other extra curricular activities. He applied to all of the colleges and universities anyway and got into the University of his choice.)

I was also at the Juneteenth Event at city hall June 19, 2020 and heard several black students speak about their Paly experiences that were definitely demeaning and stressful for the students and their families. One student had their best friend move away because the parents were disappointed that Paly was racist and mistreated their son. How would any of you feel if your child at any age would experience anything but respect and encouragement in school?

The City of Palo Alto must rise to the needs of every person who lives, goes to school or works in the area. The city must stop pandering to the wealthy who control Palo Alto for their own personal benefits; including the developers. Building community must be at the top every city council member's and the manager's agenda.

I also hope you read the current Palo Alto Weekly Opinion article by Mickie Winkler, former Menlo Park Mayor. <https://www.paloaltoonline.com/news/2020/06/19/guest-opinion-is-the-city-council-working-for-residents-or-city-staff> I feel so many Palo Altoians have trusted and expected the City Council and Manager to do their jobs with a moral compass and not with a personal scale. There shouldn't be any more financial waste conducting 'processes' in the City Halls about programs that never start or finish. Nor should there be any hiring of developers, contractors, or consultants depending upon how much was donated to a council member's campaign! I admit I haven't paid attention to the development of the City of Palo Alto as much as I wish I had; managing, raising a family and working were my priorities. My eyes have become opened and very surprised to learn about the poor internal decision making processes, and council's wasteful use of funds. As the Budget for 2020-2021 is deliberated upon, it is clear to me that the City Manager's Salary and all of the City Hall Personnel Salaries need to be reduced without the extra benefit of flex-time; showing up to work when they get there and leaving when they want to! As one ex-employee recently wrote a comment in the Palo Alto Weekly, "the majority of the staff never followed the requirement to come in early and leave at 4pm" so they could have the Friday off every two weeks. If a manager wasn't in

the office before the staff, there was no accountability. Also, I hope the Council reconsiders funding Community Programs and reinstating the Librarians who were or are expecting to be let go; as well as any other Community Service Based Program personnel.

It will also be interesting to see how the city and community unite to create a better, friendlier, and anti-racist place to live and work. Especially since many restaurants, cafes and stores are closed or left the downtown and other shopping areas in Palo Alto.

Regards,
Heidi Schwenk

Palo Alto, CA 94303

Baumb, Nelly

From: Kimberly Thacker <kdawnkali@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 4:32 AM
To: Council, City
Subject: We are so disappointed

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear City Council,

We are all so disappointed you have not been hearing us and considering a re-allocation of funds for the Children's Theatre. You still have a choice in this last hour to protect wonderful programs in the future, keep talented staff and artists, and support youth mental health and passions during and after this pandemic.

PLEASE consider these two options Tuesday night at the final approval for the budget. PLEASE take the time for something that is central to the lives of so many and brings joy to the City in a dark time.

1) Look at the overall budget and take the time and effort to re-fund all community services by being creative in fund allocation and considering projects that could be put off a few years without negative impact to the community.

2) The theatre board and FOPACT put together a proposal which only asks for a portion of the cuts back and is their best effort to keep more staff and run programs to the fullest capacity possible. PLEASE follow this proposal to restore a small portion of funding to help the theatre maximize its potential during these cuts. Please review these comments from board member Michele Wang submitted at the last Tuesday Council meeting.

Thank you for your time and PLEASE SPEAK UP at Tuesday's meeting - BE HEROES to our kids and BRING SOME GOOD NEWS instead of adding to the bad news and loss for our youth during this time.

Sincerely, Kim Thacker and many, many other parents and kids involved in PACT

Hi, My name is Michele Wang and I've lived in Palo Alto for 20 years. I have raised my 2 children here and I am a proud resident.

I am also a proud Board Member of the Friends of the Palo Alto Children's Theatre (FOPACT). Sadly, in the latest budget the city has proposed to cut 41% of the operating budget for the Palo Alto Children's Theatre (PACT). If this is the case, the Children's Theatre will NOT be able to do all the amazing programming planned to help our youth feel connected and heard. The Palo Alto Children's Theatre will be losing over 5 FTE employees.

However, The FOPACT have a PROPOSAL. If the city restores \$190K (or just over 2.5 FTE), then FOPACT will be willing to give \$90K back to the city and offer \$150K for direct support (non-personnel program costs) to the PACT.

It's a true win win proposal. We have submitted this, but we feel like FOPACT is not being heard. We want to partner with the city and help keep the PACT running to serve our community and youth.

Baumb, Nelly

From: Fred Balin <fbalin@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 4:02 PM
To: Council, City
Cc: Shikada, Ed; Blackshire, Geoffrey; Lait, Jonathan
Subject: Fwd: Medic! Fire! ... Nights-and-Weekend Brownout Approval Tomorrow Evening UNLESS You Act Now

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

FYI
Fred Balin
Columbia Street
Palo Alto

From: Fred Balin <fbalin@gmail.com>
Subject: Medic! Fire! ... Nights-and-Weekend Brownout Approval Tomorrow Evening UNLESS You Act Now
Date: June 21, 2020 at 2:50:37 PM PDT

Palo Alto and Stanford Resident,
Palo Alto Business Owner and Business Employee,

For the first time in memory, at least one of the Palo Alto Fire Department's (PAFD) six fire engines, will not be available for service on nights and weekends if the normal complement of firefighters for a shift is not available under a proposal set to come to the city council for approval tomorrow evening (Monday, June 22).

In potential cascading impacts, if more than one firefighter is unavailable on a night or weekend, a second apparatus, e.g., an ambulance, may also be taken out service, a fire station "browned out," and so on, and so forth. The designated first fire station to feel this impact will be Station 2 on Hanover Street, due to its lower call volume.

Fire Chief Geo Blackshire acknowledged that under this new "flexible resources model," response times will increase as a result. The plan follows the city council's decision to assume a worst-case-scenario revenue drop due to the pandemic and resultant dollar-amount budget targets presented by City Manager Ed Shikada to public safety and other service department heads for them to determine implementation.

There are, however, no proposed reductions that I know of to the city's capital improvement budget!

[Adoption of both capital and operating budgets are Item #31 on (tomorrow) Monday's agenda
<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?t=42775&BlobID=77181>]

— Send email to: city.council@cityofpaloalto.org and ed.shikada@cityofpaloalto.org —

The current plan also includes the loss of 8 firefighter positions; eliminating a deputy chief and administrative positions; potential new sources of revenue; and firefighter salary concessions (expected to be finalized tomorrow in closed session with the city council).

The potential evening and weekend loss of staffing, apparatus, and stations result in a projected savings of \$811,000 due to the elimination of overtime used to backfill absences. While paying overtime costs more in the short term, it is deemed less expensive than paying working-year wages and post-retirement health and pension benefits. Hence the double-edged sword: reducing positions reduces services as well as long-term costs, while increasing overtime maintains service levels via backfill and increases short term costs.

While the city has drastically cut PAFD personnel and therefore services over recent years, it has always backfilled staffing with overtime to maintain a minimum of 3 firefighters at all times at the five fire stations in Palo Alto, each with an engine, and three with an ambulance. The sixth station within PAFD, "Station 6" on Stanford Campus at Serra Street, holds an engine an ambulance, and the ladder truck. Under the city's contract for fire services with Stanford at least 5 firefighters must be there at all times. Any change would require contract renegotiation.

Years of cuts have left the PAFD system at a breaking point. As Chief Blackshire pointed out, a recent "medium-level" response fire at "The Dish" and a simultaneous medical emergency depleted all fire resources.

Station 2 covers the wings from 101 on one end to 280 and Skyline Boulevard at the other. It's specialized rescue vehicle and staff were disbanded several year ago. The hazmat vehicle is on the premises. Dedicated daytime fire-season staffing in the foothills was eliminated several years; now it's red-flag days only; otherwise, this is city's closest 1st response.

Across stations engines with dedicated 24x7x365 staffing have been moved to cross-staffing with ambulances: one vehicle goes out at a time. Now this proposal: no longer any safety net around the flesh left; just bone.

When we are short-staffed, we do have mutual agreements with County Fire, Menlo Park, and Mountain View. But the latter, has complained in the past about being on the short end of the stick after PAFD budget and service cuts. As far as I know, Mountain View has not reduced fire protection this time around.

Other aspects of the proposal also raise eyebrows and questions.

1. The elimination of two fire inspector positions.

Funded 80% by PAFD budget and 20% by Planning and Development Services, these are revenue generating positions that pay for themselves, and there is plenty of need for them particularly in light of mandated building codes, sites that contain hazard materials, and other reasons. The city manager needs to step in.

2. Of the eight positions to be eliminated, four are already accounted for. The city is offering retirement buyouts to other firefighters with a December 31 deadline. Layoffs operate under a strict seniority policy; last in, first out. There are five young firefighters who have come through the rigorous training academy and are now in their 18-month probationary period. At least one, maybe all, will be let go. What a waste of investment time and energy. A similar situation applies in the Police Department.

3. Additional PAFD department revenue generating opportunities include:

- First Responder Fee. This attaches a fee for medical assistance. Currently the city only receives revenue when there is a transport to a medical facility.
- First Responder Fee. The chief stated this was geared toward business, but did not provide details. It is important to know that this is not a priority, pay-for-services plan accessible to only a few, and therefore, at the expense of service to the rest of the community.

Please write the the council and city manager to, at a minimum, maintain the current level of service within the department.

city.council@cityofpaloalto.org and ed.shikada@cityofpaloalto.org

There were six speakers during public comment at the May 12 city council meeting; none that I knew, but each one low-key and eloquent in their own way. All in support of maintaining current service levels for the department. One of speakers closed with thanking the department for saving the life of his 12-year old son a number of years ago, which included a rapid response from Station 2.

<https://youtu.be/f3ay8sryy2k?t=13956>

It was not the last life PAFD has saved.

Seconds count.

Major emergencies do not take time off for evenings and weekends.

A full, effective response is required to stop a structure or wild land fire, no matter how infrequent it is.

Write the council and the city manager now and urge them to do the right thing.

Thank you,

Fred Balin

Columbia Street

Baumb, Nelly

From: Melanie Grondel <mel.grondel@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 11:48 PM
To: Council, City
Cc: Melanie Grondel
Subject: Fire and Medical Response Services Cutbacks

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear Major Fine and City Council,

I have followed your discussions on the budget and cutbacks you deem necessary due to increased expenses and a shortfall in revenue directly or indirectly caused by the Covid 19 Pandemic.

I urge you to consider first and foremost the needs of the residents for emergency services of fire and medical emergencies.

The stations are already staffed on a rotating basis and further cutbacks will result in significantly longer response times in medical and fire emergencies.

I live in College Terrace and Fire Station #2 on Hanover Street has been of critical importance to me and my neighbors.

In December of 2012, I had a fire that devastated the interior of my home. Due to the rapid response of the Fire Department, the fire could be contained within the home and did not spread to the two close by neighbors. The quick response time was critical in preventing a three house fire in a narrow street.

There are many houses in Palo Alto and especially in College Terrace, that are built two or more to a standard lot. College Terrace is a high density neighborhood.

My case and others illustrate how crucial a quick response time is in preventing a one home fire turning into a multiple home fire disaster.

A delay of 15 minutes in medical services, as I heard discussed, may be fatal in a variety of cases.

We need emergency responders to respond quickly when a life hangs in the balance.

In that light, I think we can put some delay on capital expenses that do not involve protection from great and immediate danger or damage.

The bike bridge enhancement work may be desirable but is not really urgent in the manner of protection of great and immediate danger. There is a passage in place that may get wet and may be more difficult to manage for a few days per year.

The cost of that project goes a long way in maintaining the current level of emergency services. This is just one of the capital improvement projects of a non urgent nature that could be delayed.

I do appreciate that construction contracts are in place, but these contracts do contain force majeure clauses to deal with exceptional circumstances as the Covid 19 Pandemic certainly is.

I hope and expect that you will see the necessity to maintain emergency services at the very least at the current level in the midst of the Pandemic.

As a result of the Pandemic the residents are asked to remain at home as much as possible and emergency medical services are part of the Covid Pandemic.

This would be the very worst time to cut back on emergency services, the very services we expect and count on to be provided by the City we live in.

I thank you for your consideration not to cut back on the emergency services, so crucial to our community.

Melanie Grondel
Yale Street
College Terrace, Palo Alto.

Baumb, Nelly

From: Brent Barker <brentgbarker@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 10:39 AM
To: Council, City
Subject: Do not reduce the number of firefighters in Palo Alto.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

It is essential to maintain our firefighters. Please do not consider reducing their numbers.

--

Brent Barker
Freelance Writer
Redacted
Redacted (cell)

Baumb, Nelly

From: Kim <ksuz1981@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 9:08 AM
To: Council, City
Subject: Please do not reduce firefighters and EMS

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

I believe that we need to keep the current amount of firefighters and EMS staff in order to be adequately prepared for fire and other emergencies. I believe these people and their department should be prioritized over capital improvement projects.

Even if they weren't needed as much as these particular staff are, people should be prioritized over things. They need their jobs. If we let them go they may be forced to move out of the Bay Area.

Thank you,
Kim Lemmer
2282 Amherst St
Palo Alto CA 94306

Baumb, Nelly

From: Nancy Lowe <nancymcdonaldlowe@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 21, 2020 4:14 PM
To: Council, City; Shikada, Ed
Subject: Proposal To Cut Funding for the Palo Alto Fire Department

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

URGENT: At a very, very minimum, please maintain the current level of service within the Palo Alto Fire Department.

Nancy McDonald Lowe
2338 Amherst Street
Palo Alto, California, 94306

Baumb, Nelly

From: Ann Balin <alafargue@mac.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 12:01 PM
To: Council, City
Subject: Retain funding for our fire personnel and EMS

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Dear Mayor Fine & Council Members,

This past weekend a couple were cycling on Alma when they after a miscommunication collided on Channing near ACE Hardware (her male partner took ar hard right onto Channing and his female friend had not realized that was his intent). My friend who lives in the apartment house across the street heard some screams and she ran out to the scene. In the street was a woman injured in the street. A good Samaritan had stopped his car to prevent cars turning from Alma to not hit the injured woman. My friend ran down and put a pillow under the female's head. Her partner, a male, seemed distracted. Suddenly, a man on a bike appeared and said he was a doctor. He actually had his medical bag with him. He was an Asian fellow who kindly took her vitals and called the EMS. He told the male partner that this injured woman would have to go to the ER. The RESPONSE time by the EMS was FIVE minutes.

With the proposed cuts to the fire personnel and EMS the response time would go to at least FIFTEEN minutes. What if this woman had internal bleeding?

Find the \$800,000 from nonessential Capital Improvement Projects to ensure the integrity of our Palo Alto Fire Stations.

Sincerely,

Ann Lafargue Balin

Baumb, Nelly

From: Deborah Plumley <deborah@plumleygroup.com>
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 1:10 PM
To: Council, City
Subject: Do NOT cut back on fire fighter/paramedic services

Importance: High

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Be cautious of opening attachments and clicking on links.

Please do NOT cut back on firefighter/ paramedic services.

I am particularly concerned about cutting back services at Station 2 on Hanover Street.

We are entering wild fire season and it is of serious concern to have these services cut back.

Also a cut in services would negatively impact the response time by paramedics..

Deborah Plumley
2080 Harvard Street
College Terrace
Palo Alto