Amy Harvey

From:	Jeanette Coffin
Sent:	Wednesday, September 09, 2020 3:31 PM
To:	Jaclyn Gilstrap
Cc:	Judy Johnson; Allen Buansi; Amy Ryan; Hongbin Gu; Jeanne Brown; Jess Anderson; Karen Stegman; Michael Parker; Pam Hemminger; Shakera Vaughan; Tai Huynh; Amy Harvey; Ann Anderson; Carolyn Worsley; Flo Miller; Laura Selmer; Mary Jane Nirdlinger; Maurice Jones; Rae Buckley; Ran Northam; Ross Tompkins; Sabrina Oliver
Subject:	RE: Agenda item on public safety

Thank you for your correspondence with the Town of Chapel Hill. The Mayor and Town Council are interested in what you have to say. By way of this email, I am forwarding your message to the Mayor and each of the Council Members, as well as to the appropriate staff person who may be able to assist in providing additional information or otherwise addressing your concerns.

If your email is related to a development application or a particular issue being addressed by the Council, your comments will be made part of the record. If applicable, we encourage you to attend any public meetings related to the items addressed in your email.

Again, thank you for your message.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Coffin

Jeanette Coffin
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From: Jaclyn Gilstrap [mailto:jaclyn.gilstrap@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 3:05 PM
To: Town Council <mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org>
Subject: Agenda item on public safety

Hi there Mayor Hemminger and Town Council Representatives—

My name is Jaclyn Gilstrap, and I am writing today as a resident of Chapel Hill. I also serve as the Chair of the Justice in Action Committee and, as an independent consultant, I partner with local organizations on issues of equity, arts, communication, strategy, and leadership.

With regards to tonight's Council meeting, thank you for the inclusion of the agenda item related to reimagining public safety. It's an important step towards reconsidering what leads people to feel safe in their (our) community. After reviewing the agenda item, draft charge for the pending task force, and the website the Town has created to share information on policing in Chapel Hill, I have a few thoughts and questions for your consideration (see below).

Thank you again. I look forward to remaining a part of this conversation.

With respect and gratitude,
Jaclyn Gilstrap
A Visual Approach
Justice in Action Committee, Chair

Feedback on Agenda item related to public safety:

1. What other data will the group have access to? Perhaps data from local community groups who are also involved in this work, even if indirectly (i.e. rape crisis, domestic violence, homelessness, etc.). My thought here is to ensure that the task force is getting a complete picture of public safety in our community and the ways in which other individuals and groups contribute to the sense of safety here.

2. Related to that, I wonder if it is possible to be more explicit about the role(s) of community groups in this task force. I know some seats will be filled by representatives, but is there another role for community groups to play? And I'm thinking of this in two ways. First, can community groups be included in the information gathering stages? Will they contribute presentations to demonstrate their side of the public safety equation? How do groups like the Rape Crisis Center or TABLE, for example, currently fill gaps that the Police Department cannot and what vision do they have for this in the future (i.e. what gaps do they see)? Second, the Town provides funding to local nonprofit organizations... would it be possible for the Town to provide additional funding to subsidize racial equity or public safety training, internal capacity building, or other related efforts?

3. When it comes to the website showing racial equity or bias training for CHPD...does this include only officers? Specifically, does it include front desk staff and social workers (and/or other gatekeepers)?

4. Finally, in all of this, I'm thinking about intersectionality. Yes, we're specifically talking about race equity and BLM here, but how do these issues disproportionately impact poor folks, folks struggling with homelessness or food insecurity, undocumented folks, single parents, LGBTQ individuals, etc.? I'd like to see some nod to that idea in the charge.