

From: Ashley Miller  
Sent: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 8:49 PM  
To: Budget Committee <[BudgetCommittee@london.ca](mailto:BudgetCommittee@london.ca)>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] City Budget

I am writing to you to voice my opinion on the budget discussions for the City of London. I am extremely disappointed in the direction that Mayor Morgan has take in the budget for the next 4 years. I want to see a progressive London in the next four years; one where all Londoner's have the economic and social opportunities that make communities great. We obviously need a police force, most well informed people wouldn't argue with that but time and time again it has been proven that larger police units and budgets do not reduce crime. The city needs to invest in poverty reduction measures. Public transit. The library. Housing first and public housing. These are common sense investments that reduce poverty, and increase economic and social capital of those at the bottom of our society.

The police are a reactionary force, they do not get at the root cause of the problem. They will move a tent city but to where? Down the street. It's a perfect analogy for why we need to invest in people not police. They are reacting to a horrible situation that is caused by poverty and can only be stopped by poverty reduction measures. Otherwise we just move the tent city down the road, the same problem over and over again. Please, I beg you to reconsider giving the police everything they are asking for and invest in the people of this city that truly need our help.

Ashley Miller