

Hello,

I am writing to submit my comment to the police accountability 6/23 special session. My name is Andrea Jackson and I'm from Albany, Oregon.

I think the most effective way to reduce harm by police in our communities is to divest from policing and invest directly into our communities. I think "reforming" police will not reduce violence in our communities because police are essentially violence workers. Their tools are handcuffs, batons, peppery spray, tasers, and guns. Their role is to violently enforce the law. The only way to reduce police violence is to reduce the police. We have an opportunity right now to radically re-imagine our approach to justice. To turn away from systems of punishment, violence, and dehumanization and towards addressing the actual root of harm in our communities by directing resources to those most in need.

Thank you,

Andrea