

Dear Committee,

I am writing as a citizen of Portland, OR to share my concern around the police and their excessive use of force.

I have been participating in protests, and actively following live reporting on the scene. It is horrifying to see the excessive violence used by the police

The PPB testimony today was extremely frustrating to watch, seeing the misinformation that the officers were sharing. It is clear that they are not operating with the intention of keeping our community safe, but rather to suppress and ignore the core issues.

It is ignorant of the PPB to state that the protesters are there only to destroy property and to cause harm. This ignores the heart and soul of the movement. This movement is to fight against police brutality, and the police are fighting back with more brutality.

As a resident, I do not feel that I can trust our police. If I were to be in danger, I would not feel safe or comfortable calling the police. When I drive across town, my anxiety raises each time I see a police car. This comes from a privileged place of being a white woman, I know that the fear others experience is much worse.

I urge you to take protective actions for our city. To listen to the people who are hurting, rather than allowing them to be tear gassed. Tear gas and deadly weapons should no longer be used on citizens.

Thank you.

Riley Self