

From: Makayla Garza
To: [PublicComment](#)
Subject: Agenda item #11
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Regarding item #11 I would like the following comment read for the record:

The leadership of our cities matters now more than ever. We are watching as the people of our country, who were willfully blind to the injustices and fear that black Americans face every day, finally see the truth and finally speak out. However, black communities have been calling for equality and justice for lifetimes. Denouncing racial injustice is the bare minimum that the leadership of our cities can do, it must be followed by meaningful action as well. Funds and resources should be invested in lifting up communities that are disproportionately effected by over policing in the High Desert, not more police. Police taking even one black life is deplorable and violence committed by officers toward civilians is not acceptable. We all—especially city officials—can not claim to support racial equality while absolving ourselves of the role we have played and continue to play in the marginalization of the black and brown people in our communities. How will you hold yourselves accountable moving forward? What meaningful action will you take? **NOW IS THE TIME** because a reality where black lives matter is long overdue.

Makayla Garza