

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 9:20 AM
To: Public Comment; City_Council
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on April 20, 2020 about Agenda Item 7

Name Mohammad Tajsar

Email

City Pasadena

State CA

Zip Code 91104

Meeting Date April 20, 2020

Agenda Item Number 7

Comments My name is Mohammad Tajsar, and I am a resident of Councilmember Hampton's district. I am also an attorney at the ACLU of Southern California. I write to express my serious concern about the no-bid, consent calendar expenditure of aerial surveillance technology during this unprecedented pandemic. At a time when our city needs to prioritize social services to poor and working class community members who are struggling during this time of economic turmoil, authorizing the purchase of fancy aerial surveillance technology--all without a bidding process and without any public input--is a real slap in the face to Pasadena. The ACLU of Southern California opposes the purchase of aerial surveillance equipment without public consideration and vetting. We urge you to pull this item from the consent calendar and oppose this acquisition.

I consent to have my comment read out loud during the meeting. Yes

IP Address 66.214.184.111

User-Agent (Browser/OS) Mozilla Firefox 75.0 / Windows

Referrer <https://www.cityofpasadena.net/city-clerk/public-comment/>

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 12:27 PM
To: Public Comment; City_Council
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on April 20, 2020 about Agenda Item 7 AUTHORIZE PURCHASE ORDER WITH WESCAM-USA

Name David Chávez

City Pasadena

State CA

Zip Code 91103

Meeting Date April 20, 2020

Agenda Item Number 7 AUTHORIZE PURCHASE ORDER WITH WESCAM-USA

Comments Greetings City Council

I am writing to strongly OPPOSE the city purchasing \$420,000 of surveillance equipment for police helicopters. I am asking you to oppose this purchase for the following reasons:

1)Pasadena's priority should be finding solutions to families who are struggling to pay rent, find food, and just survive this pandemic.

2) According to the Public Policy Institute of California crime rates have been cut by half due to the Pandemic. This purchase is unnecessary. <https://www.ppic.org/blog/covid-19-and-crime-in-major-california-cities/>

3) Today you are voting for \$200,000 for food distribution which is less than half of this agenda item! It reflects terribly on this council and city to have the police department, which already has a budget nearly SIX times that of Public Health, receive additional funding.

4)Westcam is a military contractor and these cameras are unnecessary for our small city. Recently the ACLU found that increase in surveillance can violate first amendment rights and NOT providing sufficient public safety benefits. <https://www.aclu.org/other/whats-wrong-public-video-surveillance>

For these reasons I am calling on the City council to vote NO or at minimum delay this agenda item until the pandemic has ended and instead focus on allocating funds for public health, rent forgiveness, food distribution, and other essential community needs.

**I consent to have my
comment read out loud
during the meeting.**

Yes

IP Address

47.33.104.118

**User-Agent
(Browser/OS)**

Mozilla Firefox 75.0 / Windows

Referrer

<https://www.cityofpasadena.net/city-clerk/public-comment/>

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 1:57 PM
To: Public Comment; City_Council
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on April 20, 2020 about Agenda Item Consent Calendar Item #7

Name Ed Washatka

Email

Phone

Address

City Pasadena

State California

Zip Code 91104

Meeting Date April 20, 2020

Agenda Item Number Consent Calendar Item #7

Comments Since Finance Director Matthew Hawkesworth, has told us to expect a prolonged economic downturn for the City for months and possibly years, I'm asking the Mayor and City Council to require all City Department operating budgets be reviewed immediately for possible reductions.

This would provide an opportunity to redirect operating funds toward maintaining absolutely essential services for as long as possible into this bleak financial future.

An immediate place to review is Item 7 on today's consent agenda. With the need for instant savings to provide for operational budget shortfalls, the \$420,000 expenditure for cameras for police helicopters could be delayed. After all, the current cameras work even if they do require periodic maintenance.

The money culled from the current operating budget, instead of paying for new helicopter mounted cameras, can be redirected to pay for emergency health or housing services required by City residents in desperate need. Those needs are of a far greater public safety concern.

Never mind the “rainy day” fund—it’s already a hurricane condition for thousands of Pasadena Citizens.

**I consent to have my
comment read out loud
during the meeting.**

Yes

IP Address

71.83.153.89

**User-Agent
(Browser/OS)**

Google Chrome 80.0.3987.163 / OS X

Referrer

<https://www.cityofpasadena.net/city-clerk/public-comment/>

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 2:05 PM
To: Public Comment; City_Council
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on April 20, 2020 about Agenda Item #7 AUTHORIZE PURCHASE ORDER WITH WESCAM-USA

Name	David Chavez
City	Pasadena
State	CA
Zip Code	91103
Meeting Date	April 20, 2020
Agenda Item Number	#7 AUTHORIZE PURCHASE ORDER WITH WESCAM-USA
Comments	<p>Greetings City Council</p> <p>I am writing to strongly OPPOSE the city purchasing \$420,000 of surveillance equipment for police helicopters. I am asking you to oppose this purchase for the following reasons:</p> <p>1)Pasadena's priority should be finding solutions to families who are struggling to pay rent, find food, and just survive this pandemic.</p> <p>2) According to the Public Policy Institute of California crime rates have been cut by half due to the Pandemic. This purchase is unnecessary. https://www.ppic.org/blog/covid-19-and-crime-in-major-california-cities/</p> <p>3) Today you are voting for \$200,000 for food distribution which is less than half of this agenda item! It reflects terribly on this council and city to have the police department, which already has a budget SIX times that of Public Health, receive additional funding.</p> <p>4)Westcam is a military contractor and these cameras are unnecessary for our small city. Recently the ACLU found that increase in surveillance can violate first amendment rights and NOT providing sufficient public safety benefits.https://www.aclu.org/other/whats-wrong-public-video-surveillance</p> <p>For these reasons I am calling on the City council to vote NO or at minimum delay this agenda item until the pandemic has ended and instead focus on allocating funds for public health, rent forgiveness, food distribution, and other essential community needs.</p>

I consent to have my **Yes**
comment read out loud
during the meeting.

IP Address **47.33.104.118**

User-Agent **Mozilla Firefox 75.0 / Windows**
(Browser/OS)

Referrer **<https://www.cityofpasadena.net/city-clerk/public-comment/>**

Martinez, Ruben

From: City Web
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 2:11 PM
To: Public Comment; City_Council
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting on April 20, 2020 about Agenda Item Consent Calendar 7 AND COVID Housing Report

Name	Allison Henry
Email	
Phone	
Address	
City	Pasadena
State	CA
Zip Code	91104
Meeting Date	April 20, 2020
Agenda Item Number	Consent Calendar 7 AND COVID Housing Report
Comments	<p>Dear Council</p> <p>Per the housing department's report: please extend the LA County protections to renters in Pasadena. to include a longer payback period and a signed declaration of inability to pay over the current 6 month and documented provisions, respectively. Since a rental assistance program was also in the report, a longer repayment period allows for tenants to receive assistance from a variety of funds that will be established after Covid.</p> <p>There are tenants who have had requests for three months of bank statements from landlords. Bank statements and health records are private, and a signed declaration should suffice. Most tenants have paid a large security deposit upon move in, and that should provide its own surety. My final comment regards the no-bid security cameras, item 7 on the consent calendar. \$420,000 for surveillance in this manner is disappointing. Those funds could be seed money for the rental assistance fund or provide additional support to food assistance. When we remain in community, we can do a better job of keeping our communities safe. I am saddened to see this expenditure particularly as a no-bid item, and would urge a reconsideration of long-term goals and priorities for the city.</p>
I consent to have my comment read out	Yes

loud during the meeting.

IP Address 99.119.254.164

User-Agent (Browser/OS) Google Chrome 80.0.3987.163 / Windows

Referrer <https://www.cityofpasadena.net/city-clerk/public-comment/>