

## **Martinez, Ruben**

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**From:** FERNE HAYES  
**Sent:** Monday, June 14, 2021 11:43 AM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; Wilson, Andy; Hampton, Tyron; Kennedy, John J.  
**Subject:** 6/14/21. Consent calendar #6. Mobile Command Center Vehicle (MCC)

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I continue to be concerned about the acquisition of a new Mobile Command Center.

I do not think that the presence of the MCC will do anything to mitigate the problem in our community of too many guns.

I do not believe the presence of the MCC will help park safety or encourage pro-youth, pro-family activities.

I do not believe an updated MCC would have been useful at the overwhelmingly peaceful and nonviolent George Floyd or Anthony McClean gatherings.

The appearance of such a unit which communicates with (equally funds draining) helicopters increases doubt that the primary purpose is not surveillance, enforcement or specific neighborhood control.

I will be against anything that appears to contribute to the militarization of the police.

Junk the old one; it is outdated and obsolete per PPD report. Repurposing as a mobile library is a great idea. Install generators in case of police facility power failures.

Public safety is served best by a police force that puts community/police relations first, not high tech toys.

Sincerely,  
Ferne Hayes  
District 7

Sent from my iPad

**06/14/2021**  
**Item 6**

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# B.R.E.A.T.H.E. JUSTICE 365

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2021 JUN 14 PM 4: 13

June 14, 2021

RE: AGENDA ITEM #6: CONTRACT AWARD TO LDV, INC., FOR THE PURCHASE OF A MOBILE OPERATIONS CENTER VEHICLE FOR AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$1,800,000

Dear Pasadena City Council Members,

As we write to express our concerns regarding the funding of Pasadena Police Department's (PPD) new Mobile Command Center, we ask you to sincerely ponder a few questions:

- **Why is it that PPD projects are approved without basic, research-based support?**
- **Does fear of a *potential* disaster out-weigh the prioritization of up-lifting community members from the current, *actual* disaster, the COVID-19 Pandemic?**

Our City continues to survive the COVID-19 Pandemic without a new, nearly \$2 million Mobile Command Center.

PPD presentations on the MCC have offered no extensive, data-driven evidence supporting the urgent need for a new MCC as being necessary for safety. The Police Department MCC presentation even neglected to provide an in-depth answer to Vice Mayor Wilson's highly relevant question regarding usage statistics of the *current* MCC.

There has been no transparent discussion of new and recurrent fees associated with staffing a new MCC, MCC maintenance, or the MCC's expected life span for such a hefty price tag.

The Council has done little to address community perceptions that the current MCC has been utilized as a tool to threaten people in certain neighborhoods. Additionally, Council has not addressed community concern of initial surveillance capabilities, including the new MCC's direct linkage to PPD's high-tech helicopter cameras, nor has it enacted standards or restrictions to prevent increased surveillance capabilities in the future.

To put it simply, there are higher priorities to be funded than the MCC such as Public Health programs targeting mental health, homelessness and violence prevention for our most vulnerable residents. Funding effective, evidence-based, affordable, Public Health programs like Advance Peace<sup>1</sup> and CAHOOTS<sup>2</sup> could substantially improve the safety and well being of our residents most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Evidence shows that programs such as these would potentially benefit PPD and at-risk communities, saving lives and millions of taxpayer dollars.

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Much of the MCC's funding comes from reported operating budget savings by PPD. These funds should be returned to fund much-needed Public Health programs, not allocated to PPD for this capital project.

Please reject all bids for a Mobile Command Center contract.

Respectfully Submitted,

The B.R.E.A.T.H.E. Justice 365 Team

*A Pasadena-based collective of physicians, attorneys, executives, educators, clergy, activists, parents and everyday citizens united for equity in policing.*

#### References

1. Advance Peace: <https://publichealth.berkeley.edu/news-media/research-highlights/berkeley-study-california-gun-violence-program-saves-lives-taxpayers-millions/>
2. CAHOOTS: <https://whitebirdclinic.org/what-is-cahoots/>

## Martinez, Ruben

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**From:** Tamara Silver  
**Sent:** Monday, June 14, 2021 4:29 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** City Council meeting of June 14, 2021

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Hello,

I have a comment on Agenda Item #6...

Agenda Item #6, CONTRACT AWARD TO LDV, INC., FOR THE PURCHASE OF A MOBILE OPERATIONS CENTER VEHICLE FOR AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$1,800,000

I ask the city council to allocate the \$1.8 million for a mobile command center instead to community needs such as parks and recreation, mental health needs and/or homelessness needs. Today's agenda report for this item states, "The Pasadena community has been impacted by a wide variety of incidents including wildfires, earthquakes, mudslides, various transportation-related accidents, crowd gatherings, and major crime scenes requiring the deployment of various city resources." Our city is not so large that the police department cannot ably handle all of these incidents from their current headquarters. An earthquake that damages the headquarters building so it is not safe to enter would be the one reason I can see for this mobile operations center. There is no need for a mobile unit for any of the other incidents. In the case of an earthquake disabling our Police headquarters, I would like to see the Police Department and the Fire Department cooperate and have the Police Department use one of the Fire Stations as a command center.

What would truly make Pasadena a safe city is to invest in our people. Can you imagine the appealing activities our Parks and Recreation Department could offer our youth with that \$1.8 million? Or we could make a one-time purchase of musical instruments for Pasadena Unified School District of \$1 million with an endowment of \$800,000 for instrument repairs and maintenance. Or we could offer our youth free art classes at the Armory Center for the Arts or dance classes at Lineage. Or free sports leagues with uniforms completely paid for. We could we make grants to our local agencies that serve the homeless to provide more and better services for them. \$1.8 million dollars can go a long way to make Pasadena a better place, something I do not think the purchase of a mobile operations center will do. There's an old joke imagining the day when youth and human services only need to ask a city council for funding and the purse strings loosen, and the police department has to have wrapping paper sales and galas to buy the nice extras they would like. I encourage the city council rethink this expenditure of \$1.8 million dollars for the mobile command center and re-direct the dollars to directly support the people of Pasadena.

Thank you,

Tammy Silver

**06/14/2021**  
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