


McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Clara Taylor
Sent: Sunday, October 15, 2023 4:31 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment Item 6 10/16/23

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

 **CAUTION:** This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you *know* the content is safe. Report phish using the Phish Alert Button. [Learn more...](#)

Hello,

I'm writing from District 5 regarding item 6 on tomorrow's agenda, "Authorize Contract with Rotorcraft Support Inc. for Purchase and Installation of One WESCAM MX-10 EO/IR Camera System for a total of \$496,000."

I do not support adding more money to our city's nearly \$100 million police budget, meanwhile our housing budget has remained stagnant around \$40 million for the past several years. We have so many houseless neighbors in our community, and we still lack a Bad Weather Shelter. This amount of money could be used to lift people up and support our community. I would prefer to see Pasadena prioritize safety for all its residents on the ground instead of monitoring us from the sky. Our housing crisis is worsening; we need affordable housing now, and I would prefer that Pasadena use my tax dollars towards supporting residents in need.


Thank you!
Clara Taylor
District 5

10/16/2023
Item 6

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Raquel Calderon
Sent: Sunday, October 15, 2023 5:04 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Agenda item 6: PPD helicopter camera

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [\[redacted\]](#) [Learn why this is important](#)

 **CAUTION:** This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you *know* the content is safe. Report phish using the Phish Alert Button. [Learn more...](#)

To Pasadena City Council,

I am writing in today to express concern over the proposed spending of \$496,000 to outfit a second Pasadena PD helicopter with camera technology. This after already approving a staggeringly large budget for the PD should give us pause. As I have attended Pasadena city council meetings, I often hear of Pasadena PD asking for huge amounts of money to be outfitted with the latest technology and I am more than skeptical that it is making us any safer.

At a time of a housing crisis, Pasadena city should be prioritizing services and housing, not increasing the surveillance budget of the Pasadena PD. I strongly urge the city council to at the very least take a pause on the purchase of a camera for the helicopter and supply consider if spending more money on this will solve real problems in our city.

Thank you,
Raquel Calderon

10/16/2023
Item 6

RECEIVED

2023 OCT 16 AM 8:03

Dear Pasadena City Council Members,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the proposed purchase of the Wescam MX-10 camera for \$496,000. While I understand the importance of modernizing our city's surveillance infrastructure, this particular investment raises significant privacy concerns. The MX-10 camera is known for its powerful zoom capabilities and high-resolution imaging, which could potentially intrude upon the privacy of our citizens. The unrestricted use of such advanced surveillance technology could erode the trust between our community, police departments, and the local government. We must carefully consider the potential consequences of such an acquisition on the civil liberties and individual rights of Pasadena residents.

Moreover, in addition to the privacy concerns, there are serious financial implications to this decision. Allocating nearly half a million dollars for a camera system in the current economic climate is questionable at best. Pasadena faces numerous pressing needs that can be addressed with Asset Forfeiture Funds, from drug treatment and prevention to reintegration and reentry programs. Instead of committing these substantial funds to a surveillance camera system, we should prioritize initiatives that directly benefit the well-being and livelihood of all Pasadena residents. I urge the City Council to reconsider this proposal and allocate resources in a more responsible and community-focused manner and instead direct the funds to the Asset Forfeiture Community Reinvestment Grant Program. Let's not needlessly spend away funds and instead ensure that our city remains a place of trust and caring.


10/16/2023
Item 6

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Oscar J Narro
Sent: Sunday, October 15, 2023 9:07 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Comment for agenda item 5

Some people who received this message don't often get email from

[Learn why this is important](#)

 **CAUTION:** This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you **know** the content is safe. Report phish using the Phish Alert Button. [Learn more...](#)

I live in district 5, helicopters fly over ALL the time. They're frustrating, shine lights at all ours of the night and are obscenely loud. What will spending this money improve?

In 2016 the EPA found that helicopters were the largest polluters in the US. With Pasadena passing an e-bike rebate program this seems counterproductive.

It would be nice to continue to push green initiatives. Why not add better and more bike lanes? Spend this camera money on ticketing the drivers that "own" the road and treat pedestrians and bikes as 3rd class citizens.

Spend this money on solving the problems of the metro station. Both my girlfriend and I have been assaulted at the Lake station. Would be nice to feel comfortable on the train.

Spend this money on housing the homeless.

Spend this money on encouraging more social programs to better the city for the underserved.

https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/20494483-epa-hq-ow-2017-0300-1573_content#document/p10/a2027171

Thanks!

Oscar J. Narro

10/16/2023
Item 6

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Ryan Jawetz
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2023 9:26 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Budget concerns

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Some people who received this message don't often get email from

[learn why this is important](#)

[⚠] CAUTION: This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you **know** the content is safe. Report phish using the Phish Alert Button. [Learn more...](#)

City Council,

I am a Pasadena resident in Councilman Lyon's district, and I have deep concerns about the spending on policing in our city budget relative to other priorities. The fact that we are spending over \$100 million on policing is, frankly, criminal. Taking money out of the pockets of citizens to lock up our fellow citizens is the most egregious misuse of resources imaginable. Except of course for the fact that there are apparently FIVE helicopters belonging to city agencies??? This in a city with a profound housing crisis!!

Continuing to spend more and more money on ineffective and cruel systems of human caging and surveillance when we literally cannot house all our residents is appalling. Should policing continue to consume such a massive proportion of our city's resources, the consequences will be dire both for quality of life in Pasadena, and for this council's electoral prospects.

The madness must stop. Spend our hard-earned money on social services, not on a counterproductive carceral system. If the measure of a society is how it treats its most vulnerable members, then our society is failing and must do better.

I look forward to your decision. Either this council starts making better choices, or we will elect members who will.

Thank you,
Ryan

10/16/2023
Item 6

6. Rotorcraft Wescam MX-10 camera for helicopter

I do not support the purchase or use of high-powered surveillance Wescam camera.

Pasadena having 5 helicopters is extremely excessive. Other law enforcement departments of similar or larger size do not possess nearly as many helicopters as Pasadena.¹

Law enforcement agency	Number of helicopters
Pasadena PD	5
Burbank PD*	3
Glendale PD*	3
Long Beach PD	2
Sacramento PD	2
San Diego PD	2
San Jose PD	1
Sonoma Sheriff	1

**What are we doing providing support to Burbank and Glendale if they have their own helicopters?*

Flying "7 days a week" is also excessive and goes from emergency use to undertaking regular surveillance.

It is extremely costly to operate helicopters. The estimated cost per hour of operating helicopters – when factoring in personnel, fuel, and maintenance – is about \$1,056 per hour.²

Pasadena's helicopter program is just excessive all around.

Yadi
Pasadena City Council Meeting
October 16, 2023
6. Rotorcraft Wescam MX-10 camera for helicopter

¹ <https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/aullea07.pdf>
² <https://medium.com/groundgamela/lapd-helicopter-surveillance-6ed93fb7c9a>