

# CORRESPONDENCE

From May 4, 2026

City Council Meeting

## McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

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**From:** Bert Newton  
**Sent:** Monday, May 4, 2026 11:21 AM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** Item 12, budget and lack of revenue

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Dear Mayor and City Council,

I was looking at the staff report for item 12 tonight and noticed that one of the problems the city is facing is lack of revenue, not just this year but for the next four years (and there was a deficit last year as well). A lot of American cities are facing this problem, and one reason for it is that most American cities have very low residential and commercial density. Studies have shown that low density neighborhoods, zoned only to allow single-family homes, are a financial drain on the city whereas high density neighborhoods are a financial net positive for the city.

This entertaining video explains it and cites the studies: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Nw6qyyrTel>

We need to consider this in city planning if we are going to be a financially solvent city. Even dense affordable housing is financially better for the city.

Sincerely,

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Rev. Bert Newton  
[Making Housing and Community Happen](#)  
[My Podcast](#)

"Blessed are the poor, for they will inherit the land." Matthew 5:5 EWN Translation

**McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)**

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**From:** interfaithquaker@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, May 4, 2026 1:54 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse; Gordo, Victor; Jess Rivas; Hampton, Tyron; Masuda, Gene; Madison, Steve; Lyon, Jason; Jones, Justin; Cole, Rick  
**Subject:** Prioritize a year-round shelter over increased police funding!

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Dear Mayor Gordo and City Council members,

As a resident of District 1, I am writing to urge you to fund a year-round shelter for Pasadena residents experiencing homelessness, This is not mentioned in the Housing Department's proposed budget. I agree with Council member Rick Cole and the Council that our city's unhoused residents desperately need a year-round shelter.

581 people were experiencing homelessness in Pasadena on the night of the 2025 Point In Time Count. This represents a 4% increase over the 2024 one-night count. The sheltered count included 12 people who reported being directly impacted by the Eaton Fire.

Unsheltered homelessness rose by 7% in 2025. On the night of the count, 342 people were living in unsheltered locations, with over half (54%) sleeping on the street or sidewalk, representing the most visible segment of the homeless population. This is an increase of 21 people from last year's count.

When I see unhoused people sleeping on our streets, it breaks my heart. Our city has done a lot to help our unhoused neighbors, but we cannot and should not rest until we have achieved functional zero homelessness, meaning homelessness should be rare and brief.

I realize that the city is facing bleak economic times, with deficits forecast for the next few years. It is nonetheless important to have the right priorities. It s proposed that the Police Department's budget be increased by over \$9 million from last year to \$131,910 million. Over 92% of PPD's budget is funded by the general fund.

I live in Northwest Pasadena and feel that our community is over-policed. All too often helicopters fly overhead as we prepare to go to bed, and it sometimes feels as if we're in a war zone. Are these costly flights over Northwest Pasadena really necessary?

Despite doing stellar work in creating much needed affordable housing, with over 1,000 units in the pipeline, and over 400 of our unhoused neighbors permanently housed each year, the Housing Department's recommended budget is decreased from last year's revised budget to \$58.023 million; only 4.59% of which is funded by the general fund.

<sup>084220/</sup>There is a simple fix. Instead of increasing the police budget, allocate \$9 million to the Housing Department to be used for a desperately needed year-round shelter and other housing needs.

Anthony Manousos

05/04/2026  
Item 12

Co-founder of Making Housing and Community Happen

**McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)**

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**From:** Jill Shook  
**Sent:** Monday, May 4, 2026 2:29 PM  
**To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse  
**Subject:** re: Please post this public comment for the Budget discussion tonight, '# 12  
**Attachments:** Letter to CC on May 4-26 re-budget.docx

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

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Dr. Jill Shook, D-Min Bakke Graduate University  
Co-Founding Visionary, Workshop Leader/Speaker: [makinghousinghappen.org](http://makinghousinghappen.org)  
Author/Editor: *Making Housing Happen: Faith Based Affordable Housing Models*  
Chair of CLP-Congregatoinal Land Partners: <https://www.conglandpartners.org/>  
Jill@makinghousinghappen.com Phone : ( 626) 675-1316  
My zoom room link

“If your dream is big enough to complete in your lifetime, then it’s too small.”

05/04/2026



**To:** Pasadena City Council  
100 N. Garfield, Pasadena, CA

**From:** Making Housing and Community Happen.

After reviewing the budget, we are concerned that items that the City Council has approved are not reflected in this budget. We are especially concerned that there is no funding set aside for a year-round shelter. It is essential to care for our most vulnerable citizens, and the Council agreed and approved a year-round shelter.

We know what ends homelessness, and it is shelter (including permanent housing). There should be an urgency to address this issue in our city especially before the Olympic games. Since you plan to increase the budget for the police for this reason, this is also the time to support our homeless neighbors for the same.

Honestly, I question whether we need all the police we have now. On my way to church on this Sunday (yesterday) as I drove down N. Fair Oaks to the United Methodist church on Colorado and Los Robles, I witnessed three police cars—one in front of me, one behind me and one more turning onto Corson. It felt strange and a bit scary to see so many police, especially on a Sunday. I wonder how necessary this is.

I believe some of the money allocated for the police would be better spent by ensuring that our homeless neighbors have a place to stay—right now, the police don't have a year-round place where they can refer people experiencing homelessness. The police have limited tools to address homelessness. Please give them and our community what they/we need: a year-round shelter.

Thank you!

Dr. Jill Shook, cofounder Making Housing and Community Happen

[jill@makinghousinghappen.org](mailto:jill@makinghousinghappen.org)