

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** James Mendez <jim\_mendez@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 12:27 PM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** Police Budget Workshop

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

AGENDA ITEM ID 20-00752

I was not able to speak because of the disturbing racist disruption during the City Council Workshop on June 11, 2020.

I am a 68 year old retired physician. I came to Fresno in 1977. I currently live in Council District 2.

I am writing to support reform of the Fresno Police Department.

I have not yet reached the point to abolish the police and start over, but I have reached the point that we need to reevaluate the role of the Fresno Police Department in our community to increase the trust in the police. We need to look at how we utilize the funds allocate to the police.

Are we spending money in the best way to ensure that all residents of Fresno are safe? Are we utilizing our police force in ways that are in line with their training? To both questions I say, "NO." I would like to see the Fresno Police Department move away from its current militarized and intimidating "Warrior" culture, and move towards a "guardian" culture. I look towards a time when there are no charges of use of excessive force by police and no killings by police officers.

Police do not prevent crime, they investigate crimes after a crime has occurred. They are supposed to protect the community not intimidate the community.

Crime is best prevented by ensuring equity for everyone in our justice system. That would include transparent justice for victims of use of excessive force by police.

Crime is prevented by ensuring quality education for all our children; ensuring good jobs; ensuring affordable, safe housing for all our residents; ensuring clean water and air for everyone; ensuring access to quality and affordable health care for all our residents; ensuring access to affordable mental services and drug rehabilitation. The police do none of those activities.

I ask that the police reduce their involvement in calls of help for people in mental health crisis. The police should support social workers, psychologist or other therapists.

Homelessness is best addressed by other workers and the police should serve as back up to social workers and other that specialize in dealing with homelessness.

The role of police officers in high schools (School Resource Officers) is best done by social workers and other therapists. Again, no evidence that police reduce crime. In fact, schools with officers tend to have more students becoming involved with the judicial system.

June 10, 2020

Council President Miguel Arias and Council Members  
Fresno City Council  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

Dear Council President Arias:

The events of recent weeks have given our city and nation a visceral reminder that in 2020, more than 150 years after the end of the Civil War, it can still be dangerous to be Black in America. For all the challenges we face in Fresno, no community has experienced such deep and enduring racism as Black Americans.

People from throughout our society have been joining hands, praying, and marching for decades to lament one headline-grabbing barbarity after another. And, it is still as important as ever to identify and denounce racism when we see it. Yet the everyday iniquities of Black life have survived attack from even our sharpest words. The time has come for action to squarely address the tangible impacts of the legacy of slavery and Jim Crow, and to change the systems that continue to make tragic results possible in the first place.

There are no quick fixes, but let us make Fresno a model for other communities in the boldness of our effort. Let us work locally to examine the public systems that are chronically failing Black residents — criminal justice, public health, education, infrastructure. Let us target specific investments and solutions around the problems as Black Fresnans are experiencing them.

Let us also recognize and embrace the leadership that a new generation of Fresnans and young Black people all over our nation are rising up to provide. We strongly urge the City of Fresno to Take a Stand with the Fresno State NAACP, and truly listen and respond to what Black residents in Fresno are demanding.

United we Stand,



Artie Padilla, Executive Director  
Every Neighborhood Partnership



Mike Espinoza  
Executive Director  
GO Public Schools Fresno  
GO Public Schools Advocates Fresno



Lilia González Chávez, M.A.  
Executive Director  
Fresno Arts Council



Ashley Crystal Rojas  
Executive Director  
Fresno Barrios Unidos  
"the future has an ancient heart"



Yammilette G. Rodriguez  
Youth Leadership Institute  
Senior Director, Central Valley  
Youth leading & creating equitable communities



Sandra Celedon  
President and CEO Fresno  
Building Healthy Communities



United Way Fresno  
and Madera Counties

Coreen Campos  
Vice President  
United Way of Fresno Madera Counties

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Sher Moua <smuas07@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 12:38 PM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** June 11th, 2020 City Council Meeting, Item ID 20-00752 (Fresno State and NAACP Presentation)

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Dear City Clerk,

Please find my comment below:

**Sher Moua, Fresno Boys and Men of Color**

Good Afternoon Council President Arias and Councilmembers. I reside in Council District 5. I will keep my comment brief, as I agree with previous comments and speakers who spoke in support of this item. On behalf of our youth leaders and adult allies of Fresno Boys and Men of Color, we echo our youth leader Yosef Akilu's comments and support the demands made by Fresno State and NAACP. We stand in solidarity with Fresno State and NAACP, especially the young people who are leading this movement, and all those who stand together on this. Thank you.

Sher Moua

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Genevieve Gale <galegml@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 12:34 PM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting 6/11/2020

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Good morning,

Please submit the following comment in the record. Thank you.

Hello my name is Genevieve Gale. I am resident of the city of Fresno, residing in the Tower District. I echo the demands presented today by the NAACP. Each demand is vital and must be met. I specifically echo the demand for the police to demilitarize and the police budget to be drastically reduced. Funding should be redirected to parks and school, and other NAACP priority areas. I see and hear helicopters fly over my head in the Tower District almost every night. The cost of flying helicopters must be tremendous. This money would be much better used serving our underserved communities. This waste in the police department is appalling. Please look specifically into this policy, and how much money would be saved by scaling back and/or eliminating the helicopter practice. Thank you for your time.

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Ketki Sheth <shethketki@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 12:21 PM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** Comment on city council meeting

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Please include my comment below for the record. Thank you very much.

Good afternoon. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. My name is Ketki Sheth, I'm a professor in economics at UC Merced, and am a local resident of District 1. I primarily work in development economics, addressing issues on poverty and gaps in access to basic rights such as health care and discrimination.

I wanted to express my support for the demands voiced by the NAACP and in the presentations made today. There is significant research and support on how public policy can help address gaps in basic services and rights, including the right to health and safety in their own communities. I call on this council to support the demands voiced today, to work with the Fresno State NAACP and the other civic organizations, and make a commitment to using public policy as a tool to reduce the racial disparities in Fresno.

--  
Ketki Sheth  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Economics  
University of California, Merced



June 11, 2020

City Council President Miguel Arias and Council Members  
Fresno City Council  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

Dear City Council President Arias:

This proposal is submitted on behalf of the leads: Southwest Fresno Community Development Corporation and Sts. Rest Economic Community Development Corporation for the following COVID-19 proposal, and on behalf of the attached list of African American Signatories and community leaders.

#### **PROBLEM**

##### **COVID-19 and Comorbidity Disease Burden**

Black residents experience the highest disparities across every measurement of health and economic wellbeing indicators in Fresno, including burden rates of concentrated poverty, documented experiences of racial discrimination, and rates of respiratory disease, such as asthma, hypertension and diabetes that far exceed disease rates of all other racial and ethnic groups in Fresno.

COVID-19 is a respiratory predator, which flourishes in the bodies of the most vulnerable populations—those suffering chronic disease, pregnant Black women, Black babies born prematurely, who have a rate of IM comparable of rates in developing regions of Africa. Community health is compromised and represents a disproportionate number of Black residents in Fresno, concentrated in sw Fresno.

To date, more than 30% of confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the County of Fresno reported diabetes and hypertension as an existing underlying cause of mortality. While diabetes is disproportionately high among all people of color, Black residents carry a disproportionate burden of disease. Nearly 40% of Black residents carry the burden of diabetes compared to just 25% for white residents. While Black residents make up just 5.8% of the population, Fresno African Americans account for 40% of lab confirmed COVID-19 hospitalized patients compared to 20% of lab confirmed white hospitalized patients. What's more, Black residents experience an infection rate of 100 per 100,000 cases, which is four times higher than the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) community spread prevention guidelines of 25 per 100,000 residents over 14 days, which equates to approximately 10% of the Black population while African Americans only comprise 5.8% of the overall population.

## **Economic Disinvestment**

Risk of disease and disease burden is increased by living in concentrated poverty. Unemployment is 2.5 times the rate of white residents, Black residents experience three times the rate of poverty, and have 10 times less household wealth. Studies indicate that Black residents have a significantly reduced chance of getting an interview when they have an “ethnic” sounding name, even with the same or superior qualifications to all other applicants. The median household income for Black families is \$28K compared to \$64K for white families, indicating white families in Fresno have increased household capacity to navigate financial hardships from COVID-19.

## **SOLUTION**

### **Financial Investment**

**City of Fresno:** Access to COVID-19 relief funds is a critical first step to undo the historical disinvestment in the Black Fresno community. African American Fresnans disproportionately carry the residual burdens from air pollution, concentrated poverty, chronic stress, and racism, while living in unfinished neighborhoods, without access to culturally concordant high-quality preventative care. The present and long-term implications of COVID-19 is exacerbated by the burden of chronic disease experienced among Black Fresno residents. These cumulative insults exist across the generational landscape from high Pre-term births, and infant mortality to shortened life spans: the Black community is experiencing a public health crisis.

The City of Fresno is financially obligated to invest a proportional amount of COVID-19 funds into the African American community, as Black Fresnans carry a disproportional burden of disease and economic and social justice disinvestment.

### **Fiscal Leadership & Accountability**

**African American Community:** The St Rest CDC and South West Fresno CDC will work with the existing African American COVID-19 relief collaborative, to ensure alignment and maximum impact on relief efforts. *The CDCs will serve as trusted fiscal agents and will coordinate distribution and granting of funds to serve the needs of the Black community.*

Black community champions to support COVID-19 relief and equity efforts include the AA COVID-19 Collaborative, which operates within the Fresno GROWS (Best Babies Zone), and includes West Fresno Family Resource Center, the County of Fresno Black Infant Health Program, Black Wellness & Prosperity Center , Community Champion, Dr. Venise Curry, Fresno Metro Black Chamber of Commerce and Chamber Foundation, Fresno EOC, and Cultural Brokers, Inc. Additional Black community champions include the Fresno State NAACP and the African American Clergy Taskforce.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Recommendation 1: Ensure Black residents have ONGOING access to Health & Safety Supplies to prevent the spread of COVID-19.** In Fresno County, African Americans represent 60% of community acquired COVID-19 infections. To prevent and slow the spread of COVID-19, there must be a proportionate prevention investment to offset the disproportionate infection and disease burden. Ongoing access to disinfectant, cleaning supplies, and PPE, including face masks, gloves, plexiglass counter shields, and face shields etc. remains an ongoing critical need.

***Recommendation 2: Provide Financial Relief to Stabilize Black Resident's & Businesses***

To provide food, housing stabilization such as a mortgage and rental assistance, household relief funds for essential needs, such as healthcare costs and utilities. To provide specialized support for higher risk groups within the Black community, such as unemployed/unhoused 4-year university students, immunocompromised, the elderly, COVID-19 positive residents, residents under investigation and pregnant persons; and for services such as meal delivery and transportation.

Provide targeted financial assistance to Black-owned businesses negatively impacted by COVID19 and the City's shelter in placed order. Black businesses, many near government centers and in LMI communities, were adversely affected by the required shut down. Because of the random selection process put in place by the City Of Fresno for its Save Our Small Businesses Program, African-American owned businesses were disproportionately underserved. Only seven black businesses were selected citywide. The City made little to no efforts to proactively outreach to African-American businesses.

***Request:***

- Create an African-American Small Business Relief Fund of at least \$500,000. There must be African-American involvement in the outreach and management of this project.
- Provide rent forbearance to business tenants of City-owner properties in downtown Fresno. Of the Van Ness property, 50% of the tenants are black owned businesses and another is a nonprofit arts organization.
- Ensure the Black vendors have opportunities to bid and receive COVID19-related and PPE contracts.
- Defer 2020 city business tax permit renewal payments until at least September 30, 2020

***Recommendation 3: Increase Access to Culturally Concordant Healthcare Services***

Work with county of Fresno and CBOs to secure a free ongoing permanent testing site centrally located in Southwest Fresno with access to public transport and where the highest concentration of comorbidity exists.

While Black residents represent just 5.8% of the population, they disproportionately represent 60% of confirmed community spread COVID-19 cases, indicating that permanent and ongoing testing are key interventions for the overall recovery of the city at-large. Thus far, a mere 60 free community tests targeted to the Black community have been performed. An additional 250 tests are planned amongst a congregation of 2,000 persons, which severely underrepresents the level of testing needed to quickly identify, quarantine and isolate confirmed cases. What's more, a free, permanent and ongoing testing site housed at a trusted neighborhood site with credible messengers will aid to address the historical mistrust of the healthcare system, and is critical to ensuring Black residents initiate testing and comply with quarantine and isolation recommendations.

In addition, Black residents need access to culturally respectful and responsive mental health services and social support. A culturally responsive Black paraprofessional health workforce to provide COVID-19 contact tracing and surveillance as well as provide community health worker support for chronic disease prevention, support home visitation, and increase access to the specific clinical care needs of high-risk Black pregnant persons and premature babies is critical to reducing comorbidity and mortality. Provide education and case management, and address violence prevention and mitigation through innovative community-based, Black informed models that address the specific needs of the African American community.



***Recommendation 4: Make an initial NEW CAPITAL investment to increase healthcare infrastructure and capacity in the west Fresno region.***

We strongly urge you to invest in soft costs, such as permitting, brokers' fees, environmental assessments, site hazard assessment, architectural fees and inspections to support current efforts to open new healthcare facilities in sw Fresno. To achieve overall health and wellbeing, Black residents need access to quality and culturally concordant and respectful preventative healthcare services. Medical facilities that operate under Black targeted, but universal systems of care are critical to address the unique experiences and healthcare needs of the Black community.

In closing, the City of Fresno has an obligation to ensure funds are invested in the AA community, to systematically correct for the generational disinvestment, and to account for the disproportionate ways in which the African American community is carrying chronic disease and COVID-19 burdens.

We strongly urge the City of Fresno to work in partnership with the County of Fresno to coordinate funds and coordinate an equitable agreement to meet the aforementioned objectives.

United We Stand,

The African American Community

**SIGNATORIES**

**AA Clergy Taskforce**

**Pastors**

Pastor Paul Binion  
Pastor Angulus Wilson  
Pastor D.J. Criner  
Pastor B. T. Lewis II  
Pastor Sean Battle  
Pastor Lawrence Chisom  
Dr. Kevin E. Stafford  
Pastor Calvin Moore  
Pastor Ed B. Lee  
Pastor Jerome Harris  
Pastor Darrell Jones  
Pastor Jim Parks  
Dr. Bruce E. McAlister

**Churches**

Westside Church of God | District 3  
New Beginnings Baptist Church | District 4  
St. Rest Missionary Baptist Church | District 3  
Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church | District 3  
First Friendship Baptist Church  
St. Matthew Baptist Church  
Fellowship Baptist Church | District 7  
St. Joseph Baptist Church | District 3  
Mt. Olive Baptist Church | District 1  
Corinth Baptist Church | District 3  
Bethel Church of CHUSA  
West Fresno Christian Center | District 3  
Saints Community COGIC | District 4

## African American Community Leaders

Aaron Foster  
Brandon Gary  
Bryonna Gains  
Candace Hill  
C.J. Jones  
Carlton Jones  
Cameron Lockett-Mayo | District 2 or 6  
Carmen Lockett District 2 or 6  
Cheryl Sumler, Take a Stand  
Chris Milton  
Delanno Hopkins  
Donpreyel Martin  
Dr. Venise Curry | District 3  
Durand Carter, CEO | Durand By Design | District 6  
Elijah Haqq  
Fresno State NAACP | District 4  
Gary Barrett  
Dr. Gwendolyn Lockett | District 6  
Heather Brown, Chief Administrative Officer, Fresno EOC | District 3  
Honorable Cynthia A Sterling, former City Councilmember  
Janice Mathurin-Boyd, Program Manager | Fresno GROWS Best Babies Zone Initiative (WFFRC) | District 3  
Janice Sumler, Take a Stand  
Jason Ball  
JePaul White  
John Lockett | District 6  
John Pierro  
Lanesha Senegal, Vision View | District 4  
Lindsay Callahan, CEO and President | United Way of Fresno Madera Counties | District  
Lynell Taylor | District 2  
Marcel Woodruff, Faith in the Valley  
Margaret Jackson, Director | Cultural Brokers, Inc. | District 2  
Michael White, President and CEO | The Salon Studios, Inc. | District 2  
Myrick Wilson, CEO | Mad Illustrators  
Honorable Oliver Baines, former City Councilmember | District 3  
Ray Dimery  
Rode Wade  
Ron Manning  
Salome Muhammad  
Savannah Finley | District 4  
Shantay R. Davies-Balch, CEO & President | BLACK Wellness & Prosperity Center | District 3  
Shawn Robinson  
Shonta Smallwood  
Stephen Davis, Black Leaders Organized for Change  
Tara Lynn Gray, CEO | Fresno Metro Black Chamber of Commerce | District 3  
Tate Hill  
Terrance Frazier, TFS Investments, LLC  
Thomas Roland  
Tiffany Binion Magnum

Tonisha Hargrove-Brown | District 6  
Viva Straughter, Black Leaders Organized for Change  
Wendy McCulley  
Zerina Hargrove-Brown | District 6

**At-Large**

Armen and Kendra Devejian  
Artie Padilla, Executive Director | Every Neighborhood Partnership  
Dr. Janine Nkosi, Lecturer of Sociology, Fresno State, and Regional Advisor, Faith in the Valley  
Keith Bergthold, Executive Director, Fresno Metro Ministry  
Lee Ann Eager, President/CEO | Fresno County EDC  
Preston Prince, CEO | Fresno Housing Authority

## Budget Proposal

		Total
<b>Safety</b>		
PPE & Supplies	\$300,000	
<i>Subtotal</i>		<i>\$300,000</i>
<b>Household Stabilization</b>		
General Relief Funds	\$1,000,000	
4-year Univ. Students	\$500,000	
Small Business Support & grants	\$500,000	
Household grants	\$3,000,000	
<i>Subtotal</i>		<i>\$5,000,000</i>
<b>Healthcare</b>		
Workforce training	\$1,200,000	
Health Services	\$500,000	
Case Management	\$275,000	
Health Facility Capital Investment-soft costs	\$650,000	
<i>Subtotal</i>		<i>\$2,625,000</i>
<b>Mitigation</b>		
Project Mgmt. Consultant-Quality Control		
Indirect Costs .10 x 2 (of mitigation budget)		
Community Engagement		
<i>Subtotal</i>		<i>\$1,000,000</i>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$8,925,000</b>

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Madeline McKeever <madeline.mckeeper777@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 8:38 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** City Council 6/11/20 - Item 2 Scheduled Council Hearing and Matters

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Dear Fresno State NAACP student chapter,

Thank you for your hard work and dedication toward racial equality through the #WeCan'tBreathe demonstration in downtown Fresno. Your work is an inspiration. I stand with you.

Sincerely,

Madeline McKeever

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** David G. Engle <david\_engle@csufresno.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 8:08 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** Comment for Thursday, 6-11-2020 City Council workshop with NAACP

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

We completely support the spirit of the demands of our local NAACP chapter.

Who do the police work for? Us, the community. OF COURSE we should have a SIGNIFICANT say in who gets hired to lead it! We don't need anything like a "good-old-boys" network - we need someone FROM the community to help (not "police") his/her peers - all of them - all of us. The first priority should be community building rather than military training, nurturing the community rather than dominating it. Imagine a police recruited from those whose character is to serve, like social workers, nurses, peace corps volunteers and EMT's. When you as a police officer are patrolling your own streets, you act differently than when you patrol "enemy" territory.

We are VERY tired of milk-toast, self-serving "re-commitment" and "doing better in the future" and "all lives (or buildings) matter." Balderdash! To continue with promises (knowing in advance they will not be kept) is to continue to put your comfort above the lives of others. We want some commitment, commitment with teeth.

And we want accountability: shooting innocents is not an "oops moment." Qualified immunity must go now. It should go without saying that the police have to be held to the same common decency standards as everyone else.

David G. Engle, Ph.D., and Brigitte K. Engle

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David G. Engle  
Prof. emeritus of German and Folklore

david\_engle@csufresno.edu  
559.291.3972

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Suzanne Abrams <smarba73@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 7:17 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** City Council 6/11/20 - Item 2 Scheduled Council Hearings and Matters

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Dear City Council members:

Please meet the Fresno State NAACP Chapter's reasonable and just demands. We all urgently need to live in a more just community, in which all are equally respected.

Sincerely,  
Suzanne Abrams, a White constituent

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5688 N. Sixth St.  
Fresno, CA 93710  
(559) 435-0612

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Camille Russell <camillelovespeace@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 12:05 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** City Council 6/11/20 - Item 2 Scheduled Council Hearings and Matters

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

My name is Camille Russell. I live at 6198 W Pinedale Ave, Fresno. I support the demands of the Fresno State NAACP. Now is the time to end racial bias and the excessive use of force by the Fresno Police Department. You must change Fresno's budget priorities and build a community based on love and trust.. Be bold! Follow the lead of the students and all of us who have been out in the streets demanding change.



## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Carolyn Waggoner <carolynwaggoner@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 10, 2020 9:05 PM  
**To:** Esmeralda Soria; Mike Karbassi; Miguel Arias; Caprioglio@fresno.gov; Chavez@fresno.gov; Esparza@fresno.gov; Tim Orman; Lee Brand; Yvonne Spence; District1; District2; District3; District4; District5; District6; District7; Clerk  
**Subject:** Supporting ID20-00752 Agenda Item for 6/10/2020

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

I am writing in support of the proposal to improve maternal and child health outcomes, particularly among black women and children. Approval of the proposal would be a significant step towards correcting historical disinvestment and health inequity. It also would show that leaders are taking a stance against racism. Thank you for your serious consideration regarding this proposal.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Waggoner, M.S., R.D. CLE

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Sarah Allison <allisonsarah85@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 9:25 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** City Council 6/11/20 - Item 2 Scheduled Council Hearings and Matters

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Good Morning City Council,

I wanted to comment as a Fresno resident and homeowner in 93706. I want to show my support for the end of racial bias and excessive use of force by the Fresno Police Department. I support our City Council, specifically those that are really listening to the community and who are doing their best to listen to all residents but right now the concerns of the Black community should be listened to first and longest. I am a Latina and stand in solidarity with the #BlackLivesMatter movement and want to do whatever I can to help.

One of the items on the Fresno NAACP's action list is for FPD officers to live in Fresno if they want to protect and serve in Fresno. I would love to see Southwest District officers actually live in 93706 and 93701 Lowell Neighborhood. Imagine seeing officers driving down Kearney Blvd waving to their neighbors and being part of the neighborhood. Please recruit from 93706 and 93701 and support officers investing in Southwest Fresno by buying homes there. There are many beautiful neighborhoods in 93706 and in Lowell and we are waiting for the City of Fresno to invest in our area.

Best Regards,

Sarah Allison  
93706

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Katerina Friesen <katerina.m.friesen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 9:38 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** City Council 6/11/20 - Item 2 Scheduled Council Hearings and Matters

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Mayor Brand and City Council,

I am writing in support of the Fresno State NAACP demands in response to the violent policing practices here in Fresno. I speak as a white resident of Fresno from the Huntington Blvd neighborhood, a person of faith in the Mennonite Christian tradition, and a faith leader in my community. I have been shaken awake by the police brutality against people of color and poor folks, not only in Minneapolis, but also in Fresno where too many lives have been lost at the hands of the police.

I find it appalling that over half of our general fund budget goes toward the police department rather than toward proven preventative social service and crisis support measures that contribute to public safety. I ask you to redirect funds away from militarized policing and toward mental health and basic public safety net services, initiatives such as Advance Peace, youth programs and mentoring, and public parks. We have so many other options for community safety than sending police to every situation, and now is the time to be more creative and compassionate in your decision-making.

A budget is a moral document, and I pray you will listen to the Black youth here today and decide that their lives matter in your budget decisions.

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Katerina Friesen <katerina.m.friesen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 9:39 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** Re: City Council 6/11/20 - Item 2 Scheduled Council Hearings and Matters

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

My name is Katerina Friesen.

On Thu, Jun 11, 2020 at 9:37 AM Katerina Friesen <[katerina.m.friesen@gmail.com](mailto:katerina.m.friesen@gmail.com)> wrote:  
Mayor Brand and City Council,

I am writing in support of the Fresno State NAACP demands in response to the violent policing practices here in Fresno. I speak as a white resident of Fresno from the Huntington Blvd neighborhood, a person of faith in the Mennonite Christian tradition, and a faith leader in my community. I have been shaken awake by the police brutality against people of color and poor folks, not only in Minneapolis, but also in Fresno where too many lives have been lost at the hands of the police.

I find it appalling that over half of our general fund budget goes toward the police department rather than toward proven preventative social service and crisis support measures that contribute to public safety. I ask you to redirect funds away from militarized policing and toward mental health and basic public safety net services, initiatives such as Advance Peace, youth programs and mentoring, and public parks. We have so many other options for community safety than sending police to every situation, and now is the time to be more creative and compassionate in your decision-making.

A budget is a moral document, and I pray you will listen to the Black youth here today and decide that their lives matter in your budget decisions.

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Daniel O'Connell <agrariandemocracy@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 9:39 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** Submitted Public Comment: City Council 6/11/20 - Item 2 Scheduled Council Hearings and Matters

**External Email: Use caution with links and attachments**

Fresno City Council,

Over recent years, repeatedly, we as a national community have witnessed one murder after another of African American community members by local law enforcement.

Here, in Fresno, our own community has not been immune to this brutality and violence, as the shooting of Isiah Murrietta-Golding by Sgt. Ray Villaivazo was chillingly captured on video recording by officer's body cameras. Also, recorded was the comment "Good shot" by a fellow officer and the nonchalance of the officers to the wounded and dying child who had just been gunned down. This incident and video continue to be present for myself as I mourn and reflect on what they illustrate about the inadequate training, permissiveness of misconduct, and culture of violence in local law enforcement.

Broadly, I support the demands of the Fresno State NAACP in making reforms in both on-the-ground police practice, public policy related to law enforcement, and participatory community involvement our city's budget process.

Sincerely,

Daniel O'Connell, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
Central Valley Partnership  
*Pronouns: he, him, his*  
Email: [agrariandemocracy@gmail.com](mailto:agrariandemocracy@gmail.com)  
Cell: 559-967-1940



## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Nick Martinez <nickmart@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 9:24 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** City Council 6/11/20 - Item 2 Scheduled Council Hearings and Matters

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

Hello

My name is Nicholas Martínez and I am a tower district resident. I strongly believe that this council has the opportunity to consider something progressive with adopting the demands of the Fresno State NAACP.

I believe in a stronger, healthier, more just Fresno and it IS coming. You can either go down in history as the council who restored justice to our broken communities or you can be voted out next election and be remembered as as cowards.

This is not a time for indecision. Do your jobs. Black lives matter. Somos Fresno.

Sent from my iPhone

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Gloria Hernandez <gloriadefensora@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 9:21 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Cc:** District7  
**Subject:** City Council 6/11/20 - Item 2 Scheduled Council Hearings and Matters

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Gloria Hernandez 3232 E. Hedges Fresno 93703

As someone who has fought for “justice for all” and against police brutality for over 50 years, I lend my support to the young students from Fresno State. I believe that now is the time to implement some of their demands. The city has gone downhill while the police department continues as I told Chief Winchester back in the day “the department are like bullies, they get all the toys while the children of Fresno get nothing.”

I will break down my reasons for support after each bullet point re: the police department .

Mayor-elect Jerry Dyer must acknowledge the research-backed [disparities](#) for what they are and cease explanations based on personal opinion or perspective of said issues. This feeds into negative stereotypes and stigmas, specifically those that refer to black and brown people

Dyer had the nasty habit of misspeaking about the stolen lives or those who were brutalized by the police. In the cold case of Celis Elena Gonzalez (died 3/27/10) he was forced to apologize for making up lies about her. Even now the department keeps apologizing. In addition as I told Dyer over and over, by doing this you are tainting the future jury pool and not allowing justice to happen.

Community involvement in the hiring process of a new police chief. There must be community members on the hiring committee, and they must receive a vote

We have yet to hear who is on the committee so we can speak with them directly to about our expectation of the new chief.

Charges brought against Fresno Police Department Officers Christopher Martinez and R. Loza, who [brutalized](#) London Wallace, and Sgt. Ray Villalvazo who shot 16-year-old [Isiah Murrietta-Golding](#) in the back of his head.

I agree with this and would demand that the old cases involving these officers be reopened and looked at with an open mind

Address and respond to complaints filed by community members regarding the Fresno Police Department’s pattern and practice of shooting individuals. The U.S. Attorney’s Office and Fresno

County District Attorney's Office has not charged or convicted any repeat shooters, such as Villalvazo.

I would ask that the city council support me in my request on behalf of the families of the stolen lives of Fresno for an investigation into the pattern and practice of shooting unarmed individuals. If it turns out we are wrong at least it comes from an outside source and not the tainted version of the IPA or FPD or FCDA

Eliminate qualified immunity for cops and establish police bond. They should be treated as any other individual committing a crime.

If the council really supports the concept of justice for all, you all would take a stand for this. NO ONE SHOULD BE ABOVE THE LAW, as the saying goes .... we are all children of God. If doctors and other professional people have to get mal practice insurance the cops should too. Taxpayers should not have to carry the burden of paying for a repeat shooting officer or one who continues to not following procedures, policies or field memos or violate residents civil rights.

Explain the strategy for firing racist police officers.

The community has a need to know why racist cops continue on the force

Mandate non-violence training for any officers responding in the Fresno community.

As a former mental health patient advocate I pushed for training for de-escalation. When I first started I was shocked as to how many patients came in all beaten up and the many 5150's I was able to get discharged because the holds were illegal. after the officers got the training over 14 years after Dyer told me "training is time, time is money" I saw a big difference in the way the clients came in, very few were abused, the number of holds went down and I was unable to get patients released because the holds were correctly written. I sincerely believe and for twenty years I witnessed nurses and mental health workers de escalate a situation without the use of a baton, pepper spray or tasers. If one can speak to a mentally ill person in crisis, without violence one can speak to anyone in the community. It takes training and understanding and above all dignity and respect toward each human being.

Establish a more diverse police force that will reflect our communities. Cops should live in Fresno if they want to work in Fresno.

Once when several of the families and activist were at the table, Mai Summer Vue asked Dyer why there weren't that many people of color on the police force, his response blew us away "because you people can't pass the criminal back ground." I reminded him his injunctions and police profiling put our youth in those situations and because of his racists actions, the people are not able to fully contribute to the economic build up of Fresno.

Extra concerns are as follows:



The Department is top heavy and continues to buy equipment only to set it aside example the red light cameras. Here in the south of Shaw there are so many poles with cameras in the corners of the main intersections, and I am being told by Chief Andy that the cameras are for public works and the police can't use them. Seems to me a waste of duplicative dollars if taxpayers are asked to purchase street cameras for the police to use.

Another concern is that the legal department has outsourced the department's legal representation of the cops who are being sued by the family at great expense to the taxpayers. They agree to settlement language to train and improve the department, yet failed to carry out those agreements. If there is no implementation and follow through to those agreements, what are we as a community to expect?

I have been a taxpaying resident in central Fresno for over 40 years, yet, I have never seen First street repaved but witnessed the Milbrook/Sixth north of Herdon repaved at least four times in the 20 years I worked up there.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Rebecca Ozeran <rozeran@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 9:14 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** City Council 6/11/20 - Item 2 Scheduled Council Hearings and Matters

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Good morning,

My name is Rebecca Ozeran and I am a resident of zip code 93711. I'm calling on the City of Fresno to respond in good faith to the demands listed by the Fresno State NAACP. The Black community has been targeted by local police while the police are allowed to commit horrifying acts of brutality (e.g. against London Wallace) and murder with immunity (e.g. against Isaiah Murrietta-Golding). The inequity in treatment is important to me, because it means that our police do not actually seek justice for the whole community. Moreover, because the police are held to completely different standards of accountability relative to the rest of us, we cannot trust that they hold our best interests at heart.

The City of Fresno should eliminate qualified immunity for police and establish a strategy - and then use it - to fire racist police.

The City should also reevaluate its budget. Examine how funds might be more effective if allocated to community-based programs that address issues which police are often called to address but are ill-equipped to resolve, including homelessness, mental health, and drug addiction.

Thank you,  
Rebecca

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Rachel Friesen <refriesen@ucdavis.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 9:00 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** City Council 6/11/20 - Item 2 Scheduled Council Hearings and Matters

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

I wholeheartedly support the demands of the Fresno State NAACP. Now is the time for change!

Rachel Friesen

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** EA LEONE <leonecisme@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 8:53 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** City Council 6/11/20 - Item 2 Scheduled Council Hearings & Matters

**External Email: Use caution with links and attachments**

Re: City Council 6/11/20 - Item 2 Scheduled Council Hearings & Matters  
To: Fresno City Council  
Contact: [clerk@fresno.gov](mailto:clerk@fresno.gov)  
Thursday, June 11, 2020

As a community member, I support the demands of the Fresno State NAACP students who have taken the lead in demanding an end to racial bias and excessive use of force by the Fresno Police Department.

As a former CSU-F professor and an long-time educator in the city and county of Fresno since 1997, I have had a long time to observe the Fresno PD and how they treat community persons of color. The needs are many, including

- **DIVERSITY** -- the need for a more diverse Fresno City police force, one which reflects our community and which requires that all city officers live in the City of Fresno;
- **TRAINING** -- the need for extensive non-violence police training for all officers on a yearly basis, and that this yearly training be required to keep any job in the department;
- **FINANCING** -- the need for the Fresno community to participate in the budget decision-making (the Fresno Police Department budget), with a required 100% transparency, especially regarding West Fresno and other areas of the city which have experienced excessive use of force in communities of color;
- **FIRING POLICY** -- the need for transparency for all Fresno community members regarding the official strategy in the Fresno PD for firing racist police officers;
- **HIRING OF CHIEF** -- the need for substantial community involvement in the hiring process for the new police chief for the City of Fresno, from the first pre-hiring meetings, every step of the search process, until the final vote of the search committee, and that these community persons receive a vote in the process.
- **RESEARCH-BASED.** Most of all, the way that we talk about communities of color -- black and brown sisters and brothers -- must be informed by facts, data, and evidence and this pertains especially to the great disparities in police departments, in our criminal justice system, and in the school-to-prison pipeline. Let us all work very hard to educate ourselves in the well-documented research, and let us refrain from speaking "off-the-cuff" with remarks based solely on personal opinion and racial biases. We can do much better than this!

There are many other urgent needs for a change of training, policy, practice, and individual behavior by all members of the Fresno PD. The "culture" of the Fresno PD must change and the change must begin this Summer of 2020. It is only with these changes that we will all experience equitable and respectful treatment -- all of us who are persons of color, disabled, homeless, and many other vulnerable members of our community. We are many and we are diverse -- and all of us must be treated with the same basic respect and dignity. George Floyd is the best example of what the Fresno PD must NOT do. We can do much better. May George Floyd rest in peace, and may we remember his name!

Thank you for your time and good faith as we begin the greatly needed reform of the Fresno Police Department -- "as one body" -- all of us together.

*Dr. Elizabeth Leone*

Elizabeth Leone, Ph.D.

Writer / Educator / Applied Linguist  
(559) 445 - 9135

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Mary Coomes <mcoomes@mail.fresnostate.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 11:30 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** City Council 6/11/20 - Item 2 Scheduled Council Hearings and Matters

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Dear Council and Community Members— My name is Mary Coomes. I fully support all demands of the Fresno NAACP.

Fresno devotes far too large a proportion of its budget to police, does not hold police accountable for their crimes, and does not address public safety effectively. We need funding for public services that help our communities, and we need public servants who respect the humanity of the people they serve.

Thank you for your time.

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Eve Hudson <evehudson2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 10:40 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** City Council 6/11/20 - Item 2 Scheduled Council Hearings and Matters

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

Honorable members of Fresno City Council, I support the demands of the NAACP Fresno State Chapter to the City of Fresno. I was one of over 3,000 marchers at their event on May 31. They make me proud to be a Fresno State grad.  
Eve Hudson

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Fujii <karinfujii@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 10:26 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** City Council 6/11/20 - Item 2 Scheduled Council Hearings and Matters

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Mayor Brand and City Council,

I am writing in support of the Fresno State NAACP demands in response to the violent policing practices here in Fresno. I speak as an Asian resident of Fresno from the McClane neighborhood, a person of faith, and a workforce development & HR leader in my community. I have been shaken awake by the police brutality against people of color and poor folks, not only in Minneapolis, but also in Fresno where too many lives have been lost at the hands of the police.

Restorative justice is effective and it is a point of pride of the central valley which is one of the first to pioneer this model. The center for peace and transformation brought the evidence based model - Circles of Support and Accountability (COSA) to Fresno, and was the first to launch in the state of California. This model addresses the critical missing link in most re-entry programs, by providing social support, and wrap around services individuals required to reduce recidivism and enable individuals to become gainfully employed. We have successful test cases in Fresno and as a result, San Diego and LA are currently either piloting the model or in process to launch, trained by Fresno's own. We also have the Victim Offender Reconciliation Program (VORP) which is also an effective model particularly at the juvenile level. Given these more innovative and effective measures in place in this city, our funds would be better reallocated towards these types of initiatives.

It is inefficient and unacceptable given unemployment rates, state of housing and educational attainment levels, employer labor needs, that over half of our general fund budget goes toward the police department rather than toward proven preventative social service and crisis support measures that contribute to public safety. I ask you to redirect funds away from militarized policing and toward mental health and basic public safety net services, initiatives such as Advance Peace, youth programs and mentoring, and public parks. We have so many other options for community safety than sending police to every situation, and now is the time to be more creative and compassionate in your decision-making.

A budget is a moral document, and I pray you will listen to the Black youth here today. How you determine to allocate the budget ultimately is a reflection of your values and actions speak louder than words.

With gratitude,  
Fujii



## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Kimberly Gragston <kim.gragston@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 10:22 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** City Council 6/11/20 - Item 2 Scheduled Council Hearings and Matters

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Mayor Brand and City Council,

I am writing in support of the Fresno State NAACP demands in response to the violent policing practices here in Fresno. I speak as a white resident of Fresno from the Lowell neighborhood, Board Secretary of The Community Justice Center, and a parent raising leaders in the next generation. I am deeply disturbed and concerned by police brutality against people of color and over policing in our black and brown communities. Too many lives have been lost at the hands of the police.

I find it appalling that over half of our general fund budget goes toward the police department rather than toward proven preventative social service and crisis support measures that contribute to public safety. I ask you to redirect funds away from militarized policing and toward mental health and basic public safety net services, initiatives such as **Advance Peace**, youth programs and mentoring, and public parks. We have so many other options for community safety than sending police to every situation, and now is the time to be more creative and compassionate in your decision-making.

A budget is a moral document, and I pray you will listen to the Black youth and leaders here today and decide that their lives matter in your budget decisions.

Kimberly Gragston

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Dan Yaseen <danyaseen@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 10:18 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** City Council 6/11/20 - Item 2 Scheduled Council Hearings and Matters

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

I strongly support Fresno State NAACP students demands. It is time for us to take another look at how we police our communities especially black, brown and Asian communities. The 2 biggest problems we have are militarization of police and over-policing. I demand that we opt-out of Department of Defense's 1033 program and cut any ties and arrangements we have with Israeli Government about sending our police officers to train in Israel.

Thank you,

Dan Yaseen

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Janine Nkosi <janine@faithinthevalley.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 10:11 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** City Council 6/11/20 - Item 2 Scheduled Council Hearings and Matters

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

My name is Janine Nkosi. I am a professor in the Department of Sociology at Fresno State and the Regional Advisor for Faith in the Valley. I support the Fresno State NAACP demands. Now is the time for Fresno's elected officials to end to racial bias and excessive use of force by the Fresno Police Department. I urge you to be on the right side of history and take immediate action to adopt and begin implementing the recommendations put forth by the Fresno State NAACP.

**Marco Martinez-Velasquez**

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**From:** Ken Hudson <kenhudson2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 9:59 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** Council 6/11/20 - Item 2 Scheduled Council Hearings and Matters

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

I support the demands made by the NAACP Fresno State Chapter to the City of Fresno. I am one of over 3,000 people who marched with them on May 31. They make me proud to be a Fresno State grad.  
Ken Hudson, Secretary, Peace Fresno

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Tim Kutzmark <tkutzmark@uufresno.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 9:46 AM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** City Council 6/11/20 - Item 2 Scheduled Council Hearings and Matters

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Please read these comments into the record. Thank you

From Rev. Tim Kutzmark (cuts-mark), Minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fresno.

Dear Councilmember Bredefeld: I was pleased to see you at the recent "River Park Businesses Matter" gathering of law enforcement officers, black citizens of Fresno, concerned Allies of the Black Lives Matter movement, and a few politicians. I was concerned, though, that you weren't wearing a mask to protect your fellow citizens from Covid-19. As an elected official, you are called to prioritize and protect the most vulnerable among us, which includes modeling the responsible behavior recommended by health officials – which means you should wear a face mask when in public.

Prioritizing and protecting the most vulnerable among us also means that you are called to listen to the leaders of the Fresno State Chapter of the NAACP. Your job right now as an elected civil servant is to listen to their demands and to meet them.

We need you to announce your support for more than the businesses of River Park. As a constituent, and as the minister of a congregation in your district, I call on you to affirm that Black Lives Matter and ask you to work with these NAACP leaders to create a Fresno for all, not just its white citizen.

I also invite you to join with your constituents this Friday at 7 pm along Alluvial Avenue between Chestnut and Willow for a Vigil of Allies of the Black Lives Matter movement. I'll save a place for you next to me under our Black Lives Matter banners. Face masks are required, of course. I'll have an extra one for you in case you forget to bring yours.

Rev. Tim Kutzmark (cuts-mark), Unitarian Universalist Church of Fresno

*"May the long time sun shine upon you,  
All love surround you,  
And the pure light within you  
Guide your way on."*

**Rev. Tim Kutzmark**  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Fresno

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Yosef Aklilu <aklilyosef13@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 2:28 PM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** Yosef Aklilu's Public Comment

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Agenda Date: June 11, 2020

Item #: ID 20-00752

Fresno State's NAACP Workshop/Presentation

Good afternoon, fellow city councilmembers, my name is Yosef Aklilu, a student at Edison High and I strongly support the NAACP's demands. I am representing myself today and my residency in the City of Fresno. As a African-American student here in this city's District 4, I have seen that there are challenges and struggles for the black and brown communities of Fresno in all our districts but especially Southwest Fresno. These demands made by the NAACP would protect and serve the black and brown communities the FPD were established to serve. These demands, if accepted, would not only make Fresno a safer, healthy, and more peaceful place for the residents that are afraid of what racial discrimination and bias lies for them in our society today. These residents are afraid of the racial bias that plays an impact in the choices of the police, not just in Fresno, but also in this nation. The time has come in this nation for changes to be made for the black and brown communities. The ongoing protests have shed a light on local police departments and influenced people to strive for a change in their city. It has shown the injustices and issues that lie within our very own police department and the need for more community involvement in the building, growing, and strengthening of our communities. These demands will bring equity in social justice and community growth across all our communities and districts. For example, one of our demands, the demand for the elimination of qualified immunity for police officers. This issue should have been addressed long ago. I feel especially strong about all the demands listed but this demand is very important because our police were hired to protect and serve and taking the lives of unarmed citizens do not fit under their purpose and mission. Immunity should never be granted to police officers who wrongfully take the lives of others. Justice is what should be granted to those that wrongfully lost their lives and their families. This is why I, a proud but disturbed African-American resident of the City of Fresno, encourage you all to accept the demands of the Fresno State's NAACP. For the sake of our African-American residents. Thank you, Fresno City Council.

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Peter c Flores <psflores2035@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 12:45 PM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Cc:** MrsFlores2035@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Public Comment, June 11, 2020

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

City Councilmembers,

I unequivocally support the demands set forth today and support our young people in our community leading this effort.

It is imperative that our leaders demonstrate their commitment to equity and to look critically at their own bias on a personal and professional level. The lens of equity requires ongoing learning, self-awareness, and accountability. Leaders must have the courage to lead the dismantling of the pervasive and pernicious white supremacy culture that exists in the organizations, systems, especially in the City of Fresno.

The artist Lilla Watson has been credited with this quote, "If you have come here to help me, you are wasting your time. But if you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together." **We are connected.** There is no road map or blueprint for dismantling racism in the City of Fresno. **We must create it. All of us.** We are not pointing our fingers at you and saying this is an issue you must resolve on your own. We want to be thought partners with you. These issues belong to all of us. Dismantling the white supremacy culture in our community requires all of us. This moment and movement is about the "we" and our interconnectedness.

Sincerely,  
Sandra R. Flores  
District 3 Resident

## Marco Martinez-Velasquez

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**From:** Laura Rosenberger <merciful1200355@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 1:08 PM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** City Council 6/11/20 item 2

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

Please support the demands of the Fresno State NAACP Students especially addressing the pattern of shooting individuals & brutality, stricter regulation for industrial plants that are located mostly in colored S. & W. Fresno. Some pollutants affect people of color more since many have preexisting conditions. Corona Virus infected a higher percentage of blacks that whites.

I would like community involvement in hiring new police chiefs & non-violence training.

Thanks for reading this,  
Laura Rosenberger Haider



## **Marco Martinez-Velasquez**

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**From:** Laura Rosenberger <merciful1200355@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 1:39 PM  
**To:** Clerk  
**Subject:** Re: City Council 6/11/20 item 2

**External Email:** Use caution with links and attachments

### **We need stricter regulation for industrial plants in Fresno.**

"Race is the single biggest factor in whether you live near a hazardous waste facility. Black Americans are three times more likely to die from air pollution than white Americans. Even during the current Covid-19 pandemic racism makes its presence known as Blacks make up more than 50% of all cases and nearly 60% of deaths while only making up about 13% of the population. This in large part is due to the widespread respiratory and other health problems caused by air pollution and other toxic exposure. These statistics only show the tip of the country's racial iceberg, merely reflecting the predictable results of unequal access to well-paying jobs, decent housing, uncontaminated surroundings, and healthcare..." (from CEJC)

(from: Laura Rosenberger Haider)

On Thursday, June 11, 2020, 01:07:33 PM PDT, Laura Rosenberger <merciful1200355@yahoo.com> wrote:

Please support the demands of the Fresno State NAACP Students especially addressing the pattern of shooting individuals & brutality, stricter regulation for industrial plants that are located mostly in colored S. & W. Fresno. Some pollutants affect people of color more since many have preexisting conditions. Corona Virus infected a higher percentage of blacks that whites.

I would like community involvement in hiring new police chiefs & non-violence training.

Thanks for reading this,  
Laura Rosenberger Haider