

From: [Wong, Linda \(BOS\)](#)
To: [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: FW: Public Comment on Office of Cannabis + SFPD Meeting August 4, 2020
Date: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 4:30:08 PM

For Police Department budget hearing file. Thanks.

From: Anna W Yohannes <annawyohannes@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 3:13 PM
To: Wong, Linda (BOS) <linda.wong@sfgov.org>
Subject: Public Comment on Office of Cannabis + SFPD Meeting August 4, 2020

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello, my name is Anna Wolde-Yohannes, and I live and work in San Francisco.

I am giving public comment to **DEMAND** the divestment of our cannabis business tax dollars away from the SFPD.

At a time when the city is calling to defund, disarm, and disband the SFPD, this includes tax revenue from cannabis businesses to the SFPD. The War on Drugs began in the 80s as a racist way to lock up more Black and Brown folx, and cannabis tax dollars going to the SFPD is just another way for police to cash in on the War on Drugs. This weed-to-police pipeline needs to be dismantled today.

The SFPD has proven that they will not protect the city's cannabis businesses. [22 of the 37 licensed cannabis businesses in the city were broken into since May 29th](#). The SFPD did nothing for these businesses. In fact, when the first break-ins happened on Friday the 29th, the SFPD did not inform businesses so they could take action. Instead, [break-ins continued over the weekend](#). This proves that the money that is given to the SFPD from cannabis business taxes does very little for safety for these businesses. Two weeks after these cannabis businesses were broken into across the West Coast, [SFPD only identified one individual](#), proving that they are not actually providing safety to these cannabis businesses.

After the past month of protests and public hearings, it is no longer possible to pretend that a silent majority of San Franciscans see policing and incarceration as solutions to our city's problems, or want to see our city's funds spent on the SFPD rather than on reinvestment in education, social services, and community resources.

We call the San Francisco Office of Cannabis to **completely divest money from the SFPD** and reinvest this money into Black and Brown communities in the city.

Thank You,

Anna Wolde-Yohannes
San Francisco, CA 94115