DEFUND RE-ENVISION TRANSFORM
St. Louis City Budget Toolkit (Fiscal Year ‘22)

WHAT’S IN THIS TOOLKIT

1. CAMPAIGN OVERVIEW
2. CAMPAIGN DEMANDS
3. SLMPD BUDGET
4. DEFINITIONS
5. WAYS TO GET INVOLVED & STAY CONNECTED
6. RESOURCES
CAMPAIGN OVERVIEW

DEFUND. RE-ENVISION. TRANSFORM. is a grassroots campaign anchored by Action St. Louis, CAPCR, Forward Through Ferguson, and ArchCity Defenders, which demands

... the **defunding** of the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department (SLMPD) ... 

... **re-envisioning** public safety through reinvestment into community resources that actually keep our communities safe ... 

... and **transformation** of the St. Louis region.
Our Demands

**DEFUND:**
- SLMPD vacant positions
- SWAT, ShotSpotter, and Real Time Crime Center
- Police overtime

**RE-ENVISION:**
- **Spin off** units like Traffic, Drug Enforcement, Domestic Abuse, Juvenile, and internal affairs into departments like Streets, Health, Human Services, and Personnel.
- **Empower civilian staff** trained in trauma informed case management to interview victims and draft incident reports.
St. Louis City’s **General Fund** provides the funding for the majority of City services.¹

For Fiscal Year (FY) 2021, the City budgeted **$481.6M** for the General Fund.²

**Policing accounted for approximately $172M** from the General Fund in the FY21 budget, about **36% of the entire General Fund**!³

In a city of ~300K people, the **City budgets** for **1,871 full time positions within the police department**—essentially creating a landscape in which **there’s one SLMPD employee to 160 residents**.⁴
POLICING BUDGET (2/3)

Vacant Positions

- Since about 2017, SLMPD has had 100-150 vacant positions each year\(^5\)
- Vacant positions account for a total of \(~$10\) million in salaries and benefits\(^6\) approved in the FY21 budget, including approximately:
  - 82 Police Officers: \(~$5\)M
  - 36 Sergeants: \(~$3\)M
  - 30 Probationary Officers: \(~$2\)M
  - 6 Lieutenants: \(~$0.5\)M

Police Overtime

- SLMPD has spent \($10,260,323\) in overtime\(^7\) for Fiscal Year 2021, including:
  - Civilian Overtime: $945,539
  - Commissioned Overtime: $9,314,784
- However, the budget only allocated \(~8\) million\(^8\)
SWAT
• For Fiscal Year 2021, SLMPD requested $1,207,150 for SWAT\textsuperscript{9} including:
  • ~$900k in salaries
  • ~$190k in commissioned overtime

Real Time Crime Center (RTCC)
• For Fiscal Year 2021, SLMPD requested $900,318 for the RTCC\textsuperscript{10} including:
  • ~$460k in salaries
  • ~$250k in software and licenses
  • ~$80k in education and training
  • ~$40k in commissioned overtime
• RTCC is a 24 hour, 365-day surveillance system, with cameras, license plate readers, sensors that can detect and locate gunfire, and seven surveillance trailers\textsuperscript{11}

ShotSpotter
• SLMPD allocated $190,000 for the ShotSpotter program (100% from asset forfeiture)\textsuperscript{12}
• ShotSpotter is a surveillance system using sensors to detect the sound of gunfire. The data is used to monitor, target and proactively patrol areas of the City.\textsuperscript{13}
What do we mean by “defund?”

When we say “defund the police,” we mean the process of reallocating funds and responsibilities from the St. Louis police departments to community-based systems of safety, prevention, and de-escalation.

It is a demand to reduce the size, budgets, and power of all institutions that surveil, police, punish, incarcerate, and kill Black people to zero, and invest in building entirely new community infrastructures that will produce genuine safety and sustainability for our communities.

It is a demand to #DefendBlackLives by shutting off resources to institutions that harm us and redirecting them to meeting our communities’ needs and increasing our collective safety.
Why Defund?

Despite **hundreds of millions of dollars invested in policing each year**\(^\text{14}\), St. Louis remains one of the most dangerous cities in America.\(^\text{15}\)

Our city has some of the highest rates of:

- **homicide** (87 killings per 100k residents)\(^\text{16}\)
- **violent crime**, with Black residents being more than 2.5 times as likely as white residents to be a victim of a violent crime\(^\text{17}\)
- **killings by police** (16.9 avg. annual rate per 1 million, the highest in the country)\(^\text{18}\)

**Numerous reforms have been tried and have failed**,\(^\text{19}\) including:

- De-escalation, implicit bias, and racial equity training (since 2014)
- Chokehold bans (since 2007)
- Training to use the least amount of force

**Policing does not keep us safe. We keep us safe.**

It’s time to start funding the people, and stop giving our dollars to the police.
What do we mean by “reinvest?”

When we say “reinvest,” we mean putting our money and resources into things that actually make our communities safer like:

• quality, affordable, and accessible housing,
• universal quality health care,
• community based mental health services,
• income support to stay safe during the pandemic,
• safe and living wages,
• employment,
• education, and
• youth programming.
Ideas for Reinvestment

• **First Responder Alternatives:**

  We can defund SLMPD and reinvest in **non-armed** first responders who are trained to **independently** respond to 911 calls involving those with mental illness, without access to housing, and with substance abuse issues to mitigate police violence.

• **Sobering Centers & Intentional Encampments:**

  Instead of criminalizing drug use and homelessness, we can defund SLMPD and invest in centers for substance users to **safely** work through their addictions and **clean** housing encampments to ensure **everyone** has a place to lay their head.

• **Reparations:**

  We can invest **directly** into impacted communities historically hurt from state violence, mass incarceration, and segregation. These include:

  • **Financial assistance** to families who have lost money due to their family member being harmed or killed by the police.
  
  • Job training programs to **decrease unemployment** in Black communities.

  • **Rental assistance/relief** to those impacted by gentrification and neighborhood disinvestment.
### Get Involved!

#### April 21st

**When:** Now  
**What:** Watch presentation by Paul Payne, City budget director  
**Why:** Learn how much $$ our city wants to pour into arresting, incarcerating, surveilling, and criminalizing us instead of housing and supporting us  
**How:**  
- Watch on Youtube at: https://youtu.be/xZqAVVujjI8

#### April 22nd

**When:** by 12:00 PM  
**What:** Send your request to make public comments on the FY22 Budget at the public hearing on 4/23/21 OR provide your written comment on the FY22 Budget  
**Why:** Ensure your voice is heard on the FY22 budget!  
**How:** Send an email to Ms. Stephanie Green at GreenSte@stlouis-mo.gov that includes your name, address, email contact address and a brief description of the topic you want to speak on/ or your public comment or call 314-622-4245 and leave a message with the above information.

**If you sign up to speak or want to provide a written comment instead, email us at defundreenvisiontransformstl@gmail.com to let us know!***

#### April 23rd

**When:** 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
**What:** FY 2022 Budget - Public Hearing  
**Why:** Ensure your voice is heard on the FY22 budget!  
**How:**  
- **Join the Zoom meeting** (ID# 860 3532 6673): Online, click https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86035326673; Or dial one-tap mobile: +13126266799,,86035326673# US (Chicago) or +16465588656,,86035326673# US (New York); Or dial by your location: +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)  
- **Watch the meeting on TV:** On Charter Cable with digital box, channel 992; On AT&T U-Verse, channel 99  
- **Watch the meeting online:** Youtube at youtube.com/saintlouistv; On the web at www.stltv.net [www.stltv.net]
Stay Connected

- Sign our petition to defund SLMPD vacant positions at: https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/defund-slmpd-vacant-positions/

Follow:

- The Campaign: @defundSLMPD on IG and Facebook
- The Coalition Against Police Crimes and Repression: @CAPCRstl
- Action St. Louis: @ActionSTL
- Forward Through Ferguson: @StlChange, and
- ArchCity Defenders: @ArchCityDefense
Resources

St. Louis City Budget

- Past Budgets: https://www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/budget/documents/

Defund

- Defund the Police STL guide: https://www.archcitydefenders.org/sdm_downloads/defund-the-police-guide/
- Successful Campaigns in Other Cities:
  - Denver ($25 million defunded)  
  - Baltimore ($22 million defunded)  
  - Los Angeles ($150 million defunded by Council vote to be directed toward alternative resources)

Alternatives to Calling the Police

- One Million Experiments: https://millionexperiments.com/Not-9-1-1
The Baltimore City Council eliminated $22 million from the police budget. What does that look like?