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To: [PSAB](#); [Kavita Aiyar](#); [ibrodovsky@yahoo.com](#); [cleavepsab@gmail.com](#); [derekipsab@gmail.com](#); [sandhukal@gmail.com](#); [Eva Tang](#); [Jeannette Wang](#); [Gaines, Melvin](#)
Subject: Comments SRO Program recommendations
Date: Thursday, November 18, 2021 2:04:56 PM

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Good afternoon PSAB members,

I want to thank you for your time and effort studying the SRO program in Mountain View for the past several months. As a fly on the wall, I've learned a lot from your discussion at previous meetings and I'm encouraged by the recommendations waiting for your approval tonight. I have a few specific thoughts and questions.

Firstly, I appreciate the primary recommendation of clearly defining a purpose for the program and communicating that purpose with all stakeholder and community groups. Will that purpose be articulated at tonight's meeting? If so, I hope you will ensure that the purpose of the program is entirely student-centered and focuses on how students' needs can best be served. If not, when and how will that purpose be determined?

I'm excited to support Recommendations 2A, 3, and 4 without reservations. I think those components will improve the student experience as well as community transparency about how the program is serving students. I hope the YSU handbook mentioned in Recommendation 3 includes clear protocols around home visits: specifically, under what circumstances are they conducted, and what are the results or outcomes of each intervention. I look forward to clear, public documentation of officer responses to incidents on campus as well as home visits.

My only concern is about Recommendation 2B, which calls for increased programming. I understand the perceived value in offering opportunities for officers and students to share experiences about racial profiling and bias in policing and other important, relevant topics. I think that is reasonable, as long as students are participating of their own volition, and I'd like to see data about the outcomes of such programs. I'm more concerned about the other types of programming mentioned in "Key Theme 4," like ice cream socials and similar events. Would these events really be the best way to use taxpayer money to support students' demonstrated needs of mental health? What data will be collected about the efficacy of such programming and how will we know if it's serving students? I do worry that this recommendation could become a slippery slope that leads to significant funding increases, which seems antithetical to the goal of prioritizing funding in ways that most efficiently meet students' needs.

In any case, decisions about funding should wait until PSAB looks more carefully at the MVPD budget holistically. The work plan indicates that PSAB will receive a presentation from the MVPD in April or May about the FY 2022-23 budget. This seems to me to be far too late for any substantive discussion or feedback around the budget. I was under the impression that Council and PSAB had a stronger degree of interest in the MVPD budget, so I hope you can re-sequence the work plan items to create space for the budget discussion to happen early in the year and allow time for feedback and revision before it goes to Council in June.

Thanks for your consideration,

Dana Pede

MV resident

From: [Renee Rashid](#)
To: [PSAB](#); [City Council](#)
Subject: SRO consideration
Date: Thursday, November 18, 2021 4:14:20 PM

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Hello,

I am a Los Altos resident and an MVLA parent. I have very real concerns about SRO's on campus and have been following the MV City Council's work with PSAB and the SRO subcommittee with great interest. I read over the SRO subcommittee update of Oct. 21, and based on what I have seen in there, support the following:

1. The PAL, Dreams & Futures, Cops that Care programs seem to have received very positive feedback and results, so I completely support continuing these programs. However, I would like to see more transparency and accountability with these programs - how are participants chosen, what is the success criteria, etc. And, these activities should take place off campus. There were student concerns about being associated with these programs on campus, and concerns with armed police on campus at all. So activities should take place off campus as much as possible.
2. There were instances described of having SRO as someone watching out for students was helpful in catching depression and diverting from gangs. Rather than use that as an impetus for increasing SROs on campus, I think of it this way - imagine the benefits that could be reaped by having a MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL, or someone else who has a professional background in conflict resolution, teenage psychology, or counseling wander the campus being the mentor and keeping a watchful eye on kids! Thinking outside of the box might be scary, but this would be something that ALL students, including black and brown students, would feel comfortable with. **So I do not support any increase of on-campus activities by SROs.** I think this should be done by mental health professionals, counselors, or psychologists whose entire profession is tied to their ability to understand, communicate with and be empathetic towards teenagers.
3. Additionally, as the Los Altos Task Force found, there is very little oversight, transparency or accountability in the SRO program. For the SRO program to continue, there MUST be:
 - a. clear communication to students, parents and staff about the SRO program, it's purpose and what the SRO can and can not do
 - b. clear policies on SRO interactions with students
 - c. clear records on all SRO actions, with a yearly report made available to the public
 - d. clear goals outlined and agreed upon by both MVLA and MVPD
 - e. clear policies for MVLA to call upon SROs or MVPD (i.e. PD should never be called for school discipline issues)

Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important matter.

Renee Rashid

