From: Bow Rudolph
To: Public Comments
Subject: Amend the budget!!
Date: Monday, July 20, 2020 4:28:27 PM

Good Afternoon,
My name is Bow Rudolph and I am a Buncombe County resident concerned with the out of touch behavior exhibited by our Commissioners.

The people of Buncombe County have been very clear about how the approved budget abandons the well being of year round residents, and places more importance on tourism. Southern States are still reaching record COVID19 cases, and encouraging interstate travel from our neighboring States puts our citizens at an even larger risk.

For the past two months the United States has seen protests surrounding the mistreatment of our Black population on multiple levels, and Buncombe County is no exception. I am demanding that Commissioners amend their budget and defund the County Sheriff's Office and Detention Center by at least 50% immediately. Since no initiative has been made on your behalf to do your job and respond to your constituents' concerns, I have some suggestions.

As a start, please reinvest funds taken from the Sheriff and jail in ways that effectively address the local pandemic. This plan should include an end to the reopening. Only essential businesses should be open, with a requirement that businesses provide all workers with protective gear and that the mask policy is upheld.

I thank you for reading this email and hearing my voice, but please understand that you have disappointed many of your neighbors and fellow residents. I hope you see this email and take it to heart, because we will return to the streets if you continue to ignore your city.

Sincerely,
Bow Rudolph