From: Sara Moran
To: Public Comments
Subject: public comment
Date: Monday, July 20, 2020 3:58:01 PM

Hello,

My name is Sara Moran and I live in Asheville, North Carolina. I am writing today to demand that commissioners amend their budget and defund the county sheriff's office and detention center by at least 50 % immediately.
As a start, please reinvest funds taken from the sheriff and jail in ways that effectively address the local pandemic. This plan must also include an end to the reopening. People are losing their lives due to covid-19, we should not be promoting tourism while our own community suffers. Only essential business should be open. Businesses must be required to provide all workers with protective gear and that the mask policy is upheld.
All city and county must choose plan c, and refuse to return to in person learning. The county must provide accessible testing for all who need it, free masks, and funds for increased pay and support for frontline essential workers. \
The county must shut down all leisure travel and abolish the TDA and its advertising. The county must reopen hotels for the unhoused community to prioritize their health and wellbeing. Evictions must also halt during the covid pandemic. Durham county's sheriff has made this commitment Buncombe's sheriff must too.
The pandemic response must direct funds towards communities hardest hit and most at risk, especially immigrant communities.
The pandemic management must center the needs of communities of color. Going forward, the county must invest in the economic wellbeing of Black, Brown and Indegenious residents. Commit resources to eliminate the racial opportunity gap. Provide deeply affordable housing, land provisions, mental health services, rent subsides and eviction diversion, free public transportation and restorative justice for all.

Thank You,
Sara Moran