From: Avery Tarpley
To: Public Comments
Subject: Public comment from an asheville resident
Date: Monday, July 20, 2020 4:49:13 PM

Hello,

My name is Avery Tarpley and I live and work in Asheville. I am writing to beg that you consider these demands during your next meeting for the good (and for the survival) of our communities.

Please stop the reopening of our vulnerable city except for essential businesses that supply their workers with the necessary PPE and covid precautions.

Please protect our children, teachers and families and choose plan C for schools in the fall — anyone attending school in person is risking their and the health of those around them.

Buncombe county sheriffs department must halt the enforcing of evictions during this pandemic — we are making people more vulnerable to this virus by further taking away their housing security and financial stability .

Shut down all leisure travel and create a plan that allocates revenue from future tourism (when scientists and doctors deem it safe for tourism to resume) to communities of color, low income communities, and vulnerable populations.

Open all hotels to houseless folks in the city to decrease the spread of covid and also because it's the right thing to do and we all know it.

How to pay for all of this? Defund the police department by 50% and use this money to pay for the things listed above, as well as continued investment in vulnerable populations, public goods, and equitable & sustainable infrastructure.

Our community needs us — needs you — to do better if we're going to survive.

Best,
Avery Tarpley