To: Toronto Police Services Board July 9, 2020

Re: Town Hall re Matters Concerning Police Accountability, Reform, and Community Safety Priorities

As a White person living in the Bedford Park area of Ward 15, I would like to add my voice to those who are fed up and frustrated with the ongoing systemic racism in our institutions and policing in this city.

I am concerned with the relative size of the Toronto Police Services budget when compared to other important city services.

I am in favour of reductions to the Toronto Police Services budget and investing these funds into priority programming and services to support marginalized communities.

Many possible solutions and recommendation have been put forth in the past but have been ignored, underfunded, or unable to get off the ground.

Mayor Tory notes in his June 23, 2020 'Changes to Policing in Toronto' address to City Council:

1(c) - City Council direct the City Manager, in consultation with the Toronto Police Services Board, to develop alternative models of community safety response that would involve extensive community consultation on a proposed response model.

And yet further down Mayor Tory notes:

13 - City Council request the Toronto Police Services Board to direct the Toronto Police Service to implement a plan to equip all police officers with Body-Worn Cameras by January 1, 2021 and enact policies that ensure consequences for unauthorized de-activation or covering of the cameras.

Where is the "extensive community consultation on a proposed response model “ mentioned in 1(c) when the motion to request all police officers be equipped with Body-Worn Cameras by January 1, 2021, was adopted at the June 29th and 30th Council meeting?

Mayor John Tory also states in the same letter that "Sensible, meaningful change in policing must happen and we have begun to lay out the steps to ensure it does happen, together with a robust engagement of the public on these issues."

I urge you, the Toronto Police Services Board, to take this message to heart, listen to the robust engagement of the community on these issues, and take action.

Thank you for hosting these Town Hall meetings and allowing me the opportunity to write in.

Sincerely,

Susan Menary