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**From:** Rummblestrips [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 1, 2024 9:47 PM  
**To:** Stevenson, Kirsten <Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca>  
**Subject:** Police Budget Feedback

Hello, I am emailing my thoughts about the Police Budget.

I would only support an increased Police Budget IF, all those funds were put towards a new type of Police Force trained for mental health calls. And please don't tell me you have staff with this training. I am not talking about basic training. I am talking about licensed health care workers like psychologists, social workers, etc, who's secondary roll/title is that of a police officer.

We have a mental health crisis in Hamilton and in order to serve the community better, we need Mental Health experts who are officers.

This is the only way I would support the budget.

Also, paid leave for Officers who have done obvious wrong, is disgusting. Absolutely disgusting. It only proves that the Association feels it is above the law, and it leaves a terrible taste in the community. This needs to be abolished immediately and officers must be held accountable for their actions just like any other employee would be.

I respect our officers and would love to work within the force in a capacity that helped the city. And these two things above would make me even more proud to be a part of the team

Thank you!

Joanne Ellen Patak