

MIDCYCLE BUDGET REVIEW BY THE COMMUNITY

OPD OVERTIME

This year City Council asked OPD to reduce its overtime budget by \$500,000.ⁱ The city budgeted \$12.4M for OPD overtime this year. They are projected to spend \$29.5Mⁱⁱ - spending over \$17M taxpayer dollars that should have gone to essential city services. But this year isn't an exception. This happens **every year** while City Council stands by and does nothing.

OPD claims that high violent crime rates and police understaffing drive overtime spending.ⁱⁱⁱ But in the past 6 years they've received 22% more staff and there's been 28% less violent crime^{iv} - **and police overtime has still risen by 33%**.

ASK CITY COUNCIL:

What is City Council doing to address this bleeding of our limited resources? Are we going to keep drawing from our rainy day fund to pay for police overspending?^v

Where is the money coming from? The city has hundreds of vacant positions in key departments,^{vi} and only a handful of these have active job ads.^{vii} Is the money that was budgeted for these positions being spent on police overtime instead?

It was recently reported that Oakland failed to spend \$2.2M on anti-displacement and homeless assistance efforts because of mismanagement and staffing shortages.^{viii} Is that money now subsidizing OPD's reckless spending?

TRASH DETECTIVES

Schaaf and Guillen are requesting additional funds (total of \$550,000) to fund 3 highly paid full time "trash detectives." That same amount of money could pay for 8 illegal dumping crew members who would actually be effective to keep the streets clean!^{ix}

ASK CITY COUNCIL:

Why is the city investing money in trash detectives instead of finding real solutions to meet the peoples' demand for clean streets?

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OPD=#1 PRIORITY?

Oakland already spends 43% of its general fund on policing – a higher percentage than almost any other comparable city in the country.^x In the last 20 years, the OPD budget has nearly doubled, growing faster than the city’s budget itself. In fact, \$0.53 out of every additional dollar added to the general fund revenues since 1999 has been spent on policing.^{xi} Yet, despite all this spending, crime rates in Oakland show no demonstrable relationship to police spending!

ASK CITY COUNCIL:

When will we stop pouring money into a dysfunctional and corrupt department and start investing in the things that truly make us safer – like housing affordability, infrastructure, economic development, education, and programs for youth?

OAKLAND GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURE, 2017–2019

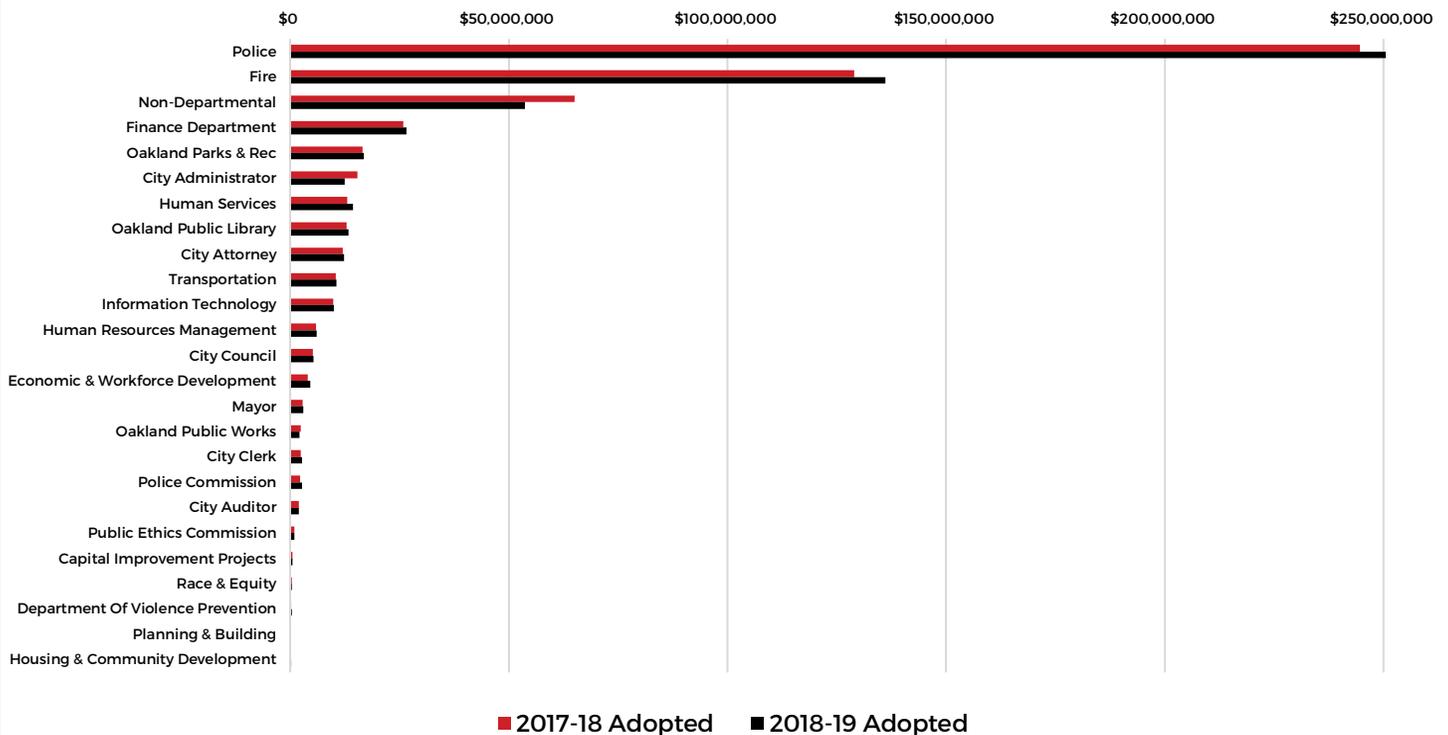


Figure 1 - Source: FY 2017-19 Adopted Policy Budget, p. E117.

ⁱ City of Oakland, Fiscal Year 2017-19 Adopted Policy Budget.
ⁱⁱ "Quarterly Report on Public Safety Overtime," Agenda Report to City Council, May 7, 2018.
ⁱⁱⁱ "Overtime Expenditures in the Fire and Police Departments," Agenda Report to City Council, November 27, 2017.
^{iv} <http://www.city-data.com/crime/crime-Oakland-California.html>
^v "FY 2018-19 Midcycle Budget Amendments," Agenda Report to City Council, May 17, 2018.
^{vi} "Semi-Annual Vacancy Report," Agenda Report to the City Council, April 2, 2018.
^{vii} <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/oaklandca>
^{viii} "Oakland Failed to Spend 22 Million on Anti-Displacement Funds and Homeless Assistance," *East Bay Express*, May 22, 2018.
^{ix} "FY 2018-19 Midcycle Budget Amendments," Agenda Report to City Council, May 17, 2018.
^x "Freedom to Thrive: Reimagining Safety and Security in our Communities," Black Youth Project, Center for Popular Democracy and Law for Black Lives, 2017.
^{xi} City of Oakland, Fiscal Year 1999-01 Adopted Policy Budget.

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