

Public Comment *(received via email)*

Agenda Date: 5/4/2021

From: Michaels Christopher : [mail to :**REDACTED**]
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 10:02 PM
To: Lane County Budget & Planning
Subject: Collection and release of race and ethnicity of individuals arrested, charged and sentenced

[EXTERNAL △]

Dear Lane County Budget Committee Budget Committee,

We are concerned that year after year, we see that Black Oregonians are jailed and imprisoned at much higher rates than others, including people from Lane County, but we don't see in our county budget any information about this problem. We should be able to find out who is being stopped, arrested, charged, convicted, and sentenced in our county. I think the district attorney should take some responsibility for making sure we get this information by working with our law enforcement partners and the County Sheriff to put this information together in a report to the public regularly.

We are aware that this issue has been raised to the county before, yet it has not taken any action, even during a time of an uprising against police brutality and demands for more transparent and accountable public safety systems. It is about time that Lane County leaders took action on the overrepresentation of Black Oregonians in our jails and prisons. All Black Lives Matter.

Sincerely,
Christopher & Deb Michaels

From: Ellen Rifkin [mail to :[REDACTED](#)]
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 1:46 PM
To: JONES Diana L (CAO) <Diana.JONES@lanecountyor.gov>
Subject: DA must track needed data

[EXTERNAL △]

I write to request that the budget include allocation for the Office of the District Attorney to collect, and make available to the public, records of all arrests and of subsequent dispensation of each case-- i.e. subsequent charges, sentences, and convictions. It's important that this data track the race, ethnicity, and gender of all arrested individuals, since without that information we have no way of knowing how well Lane County is doing with respect to institutional biases that have been shown to be built into criminal justice systems throughout the country. Given Oregon's history of exclusions and segregation, there is no reason to think we would escape the plague of systemic racism. In order to address that reality, we need clear information on how the criminal justice system is functioning now. If doubt exists as to whether we actually have the problem, the data are needed to show that as well.

Thank you.
Ellen Rifkin
Eugene

From: Edward Black [mail to :REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 1:21 PM
To: JONES Diana L (CAO) <Diana.JONES@lanecountyor.gov>
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT FOR MEETING DATE 05/04/2021

[EXTERNAL △]

Lane County Commissioners,

The Lane County budget process an opportunity for the public to speak to you -- our elected officials and citizen members -- about the policies and functions of the DA's office. I am writing to ask you to adopt the Lane County Budget Committee proposal for a new performance metric to require the Office of the District Attorney to collect and make publicly available race and ethnicity information, proportional to population, on police encounters, citations, arrests, cases filed and convictions on an annual basis.

I'm concerned that year after year, we see that Black Oregonians are jailed and imprisoned at much higher rates than others, including people from Lane County, but we do not see any reports regarding this issue. We should be able to find out who is being stopped, arrested, charged, convicted, and sentenced in our county. I think the District Attorney should take responsibility for making sure we get this information by working with the County Sheriff other local law enforcement agencies to put this information together in a report for regular public review.

I am aware that this issue has been raised to the county before, yet they have not taken any action, even during a time of public protest against police brutality and demands for more transparent and accountable public safety systems. It is about time that Lane County leaders took action on the overrepresentation of Black Oregonians in our jails and prisons. Black Lives Matter.

Sincerely,

Edward Black

Sincerely,
Geraldine Moreno-Black