



Office of the Mayor

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November 12, 2020

Dear Fremont Unified School District Board President Desrie Campbell,

I am writing you once again pleading for FUSD Board Members to meet with our City Council in a special joint session to discuss the SRO program. I am discouraged by the response we received yesterday that the Board intends to proceed with this item and kindly ask that this agenda item be continued to a future date after we meet.

Unfortunately, despite many requests, the City was not provided the opportunity to be involved or participate in the Task Force study. The police department made numerous attempts to help share information and was only allowed 15 minutes to answer questions. We have had a very successful SRO program and collaboration with FUSD for 22 years, and we are extremely disappointed with the lack of communication. To this date, the District has not shared any specific concerns with the City regarding the program and we have never had a complaint. The final Task Force Report was only made available a week ago, and upon review, we made the prompt request for a meeting.

We are concerned with many elements of the report, and most specifically that there is no contingency plan in place to help ensure the safety of students on high school campuses when they return to in-person learning. Without SROs, schools will rely on the availability of patrol officers and calls will be prioritized along side all other requests and could be significantly delayed. SROs provide valuable resources to our schools and youth that goes far beyond the school day, to include security for sporting events, graduations and they assist with after hour crisis. Additionally, while it has been suggested that alternative resources for providing mental health support might include 'free services' that could be provided by our Human Services Department or by the County, there has been no discussion with the City regarding the feasibility of this idea. Without a plan in place, we are concerned our children and FUSD faculty will not be afforded the timely resources we have been able to provide over the last few decades.

Our community values public safety, and deserves to be afforded a joint public discussion with the City and FUSD to hear about the report and listen to the concerns, as well as our response. On behalf of our entire Fremont community, I am sincerely asking you to reconsider our request to slow down this process and to meet with us before any action is taken.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lily Mei".

Lily Mei

Mayor

cc: Fremont Unified School District Board of Education
Fremont City Council
FUSD Superintendent Christopher 'CJ' Cammack
Fremont City Manager Mark Danaj