

**To:** City Web  
**Subject:** RE: Public Comment for Public Safety Committee Meeting on October 21, 2020 on Agenda Item 6

## **Public Comment for Public Safety Committee Meeting on October 21, 2020 about Agenda Item 6**

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**Select one City legislative body for the comment**      Public Safety Committee

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**Meeting Date**      October 21, 2020

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**Agenda Item**      6

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**Name**      Kris Ockershauser

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**Email**

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**Phone**

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**Address**

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**City**      Pasadena

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**State**      CA

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**Zip Code**      91105

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**Comments (under 200 words)**      The Gang Reduction Education And Training / GREAT program, proposed by PPD and PUSD to reduce gang affiliations and enhance youth development , is a hastily offered program the public doesn't know much about, but which would commit us to 5 years.

It proposes PPD officers to teach, train and monitor middle school students in PUSD middle schools, for 5 years.

GREAT has a checkered past with a U S Dept. of Justice funded evaluation for

Congress that judged its initial version as ineffective. A revised version was evaluated in its first of 5 years with no conclusion about its long term effectiveness.

We have a successful, nationally renowned gang reduction program next door at LAPD. Local civil rights attorney Connie Rice headed the development of the Gang Reduction Youth Development/GRYD, using LAPD officers and former gang members, both trained in a public health model of intervention and prevention.

Why can't we at least explore this model of documented success before committing to 5 years of questionable outcome and no input from local stakeholders?

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**I consent to have my comment read out loud during the meeting.**      Yes

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