

From: trossi1113@aol.com
To: [Council Comment](#)
Cc: [Frey, Jacob](#); [Police](#); [CommunitySafety](#); [dawanna.witt](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fw: Drones..
Date: Friday, July 17, 2026 4:58:37 PM

Ran across this today when searching for something. Of course, why would the anti police faction on the city council want drones, when they are not a bit concerned that the 3rd Police Precinct, which serves 26 neighborhoods, many in THEIR own wards, is still....without a fully operational police station. If it takes another 5 years, that would be a big win for them.

<https://www.betterminneapolis.com/p/nokings-what-happens-now>

"For most cities, having police officers in a police station is an unremarkable fact of life. In Minneapolis, residents of the 3rd Precinct watched their station burn to the ground on May 28, 2020, just three days after George Floyd's murder. More than five years later, the precinct still operates from a temporary site. At the same time, the planned *South Minneapolis Community Safety Center* — a facility meant to include both a police station and “other community resources” — remains months, if not years, from opening.

A small but vocal group of residents objected to calling the new facility a police station — and so it became a *community safety center*. This kind of semantic reframing may seem harmless, but to many voters it represents the sort of symbolic politics that's driving people away from the DFL."

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Wayne Cassman](#)
To: [Council Comment](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Drones as first responder
Date: Friday, July 17, 2026 11:25:53 AM

You don't often get email from wayne55412@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to follow-up with you since my last letter. I am deeply disappointed that you have not approved the drones as first responders trial program that was being offered to the city of Minneapolis. It makes no sense that the council would reject a FREE TRIAL of a program that could provide benefit to the city. By rejecting this offer, the council has placed politics over public safety. While the city is short on police officers this program made sense as a way of extending and prioritizing police responses to calls. By voting against this program, you have let down the residents of north Minneapolis who desperately need improved law enforcement.

Wayne A. Cassman
Victory Neighborhood
Minneapolis, MN

On Monday, July 6, 2026 at 04:22:50 PM CDT, Wayne Cassman <wayne55412@yahoo.com> wrote:

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to ask you for your support for the Drones as First Responder proposal being discussed at the July 8 meeting of the Minneapolis City Council. I have been a resident of Victory Neighborhood in the 4th precinct over 20 years. I have seen many changes in our neighborhood over the past several years, including a significant increase in illegal activities. I believe that the use of drones would be very helpful to law enforcement at eliminating criminal activity in our neighborhood.

Activities that I have observed frequently occurring in our neighborhood include illegal dumping of trash around abandoned businesses, illegal operation of an automobile repair business on the street in a residential neighborhood, and open drug dealing on our street.

I have reported these incidents to authorities including 311 multiple times, however by the time that authorities arrive the activity has stopped or become less obvious to observers. If we were able to have drones quickly respond to reports of criminal activity, evidence of the crime could be documented and would provide further support to law enforcement.

I feel strongly that the drones as first responders would greatly enhance the work of law enforcement, and enhance the quality of life for our neighborhoods. Please support this program.

Sincerely,
Wayne A. Cassman
4429 Oliver Avenue North
Minneapolis

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From: trossi1113@aol.com
To: [Council Comment](#)
Cc: [Frey, Jacob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Yet another example of damage being inflicted by the DSA aligned voting block on the Mpls City Council.
Date: Thursday, July 16, 2026 7:28:38 PM

My suggestion to all those looking at Mpls now, to live, or maybe even to buy here...is just don't. Instead, seriously consider St Paul, where there is much less of a baked in, (and for years) anti police sentiment by the city council.

These DSA adherents on the Mpls City Council are using Israel as their way out, but this voting block is not known for being truthful or transparent. They always oppose anything that would be helpful to the MPD, in assisting them to do the work of advancing public safety.

At this point, these deeply entrenched anti/ defund/ abolish police dynamics are making Mpls much less workable AND less safe AND less functional, which is really a shame.

No place deserves this.

Deadlocked Minneapolis City Council fails to pass police drone pilot program

https://www.startribune.com/minneapolis-police-drone-skydio/601868548?utm_source=gift_email

Excerpt...

“Refusing this pilot I don’t believe sends a message to Israel,” Frey told the council. “It does make it more difficult for us to provide the necessary safety to our residents.”

That didn’t land well with the more progressive council members who opposed the contract. Council Vice President Jamal Osman was originally a co-author of the proposal, but changed his stance due to Skydio’s connection to the Israeli military.

He was joined in voting no by council President Elliott Payne and council members Jason

Chavez, Robin Wonsley, Chowdhury and Soren Stevenson. Those who supported it were council members Pearl Warren, Elizabeth Shaffer, Michael Rainville, Vetaw, Linea Palmisano and Jamison Whiting.

[EXTERNAL] This email originated from outside of the City of Minneapolis. Please exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

From: [Grant Johnson via Smartsheet](#)
To: [Council Comment](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Madeleine
Date: Thursday, July 16, 2026 2:21:25 PM



Public Comment: Madeleine

Date: 07/16/26, 2:17 PM

Vote-NO to Skysio Drones

As a Minneapolis resident, I am opposed to the surveillance of citizens using Skydio Drones. This infringes on privacy rights, and is a budget-cost that could instead be directed to prevention and services related to housing, healthcare, food/nourishment programs, public transportation, and education.

Ward:

I don't know, share with all City Council

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