

TO: MJF
FROM: Comms
RE: Trump/National media
DATE: October 14, 2019

Today you will do an interview with Mitch Smith from the New York Times about the community's reaction to the President's anti-Somali rhetoric.

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Key Points – Somali Community

- When I moved to Minneapolis, I didn't know anybody. The first community that made me feel welcome and at home in Minneapolis was our Somali community.
 - Today I want them to understand that you have a loving and welcoming home in Minneapolis, and the President's hateful rhetoric does not.
- In my initial response to his visit, I said that a message of hatred would never be welcome. Encouraging an audience of tens of thousands to boo an entire community is the type of thing I had in mind.
- The way this president understands immigration and refugee resettlement is clearly rooted in racism, but also – just plain inaccurate.
- Trump said that “for many years, leaders in Washington brought large numbers of refugees to your state from Somalia without considering the impact on schools and communities and taxpayers.”
- In Minneapolis and in our state, we've been considering the impact carefully – it's why we stand on such a proud history of welcoming people and why I chose to respond directly to his consent directive during the speech.
 - By some estimates, resettlement costs run Minnesota taxpayers up to \$180 million in annually, roughly 2 percent of all our social service spending.
 - That's more than balanced by the long-term economic gain that refugees and other immigrants produce, with refugees and immigrants pay \$1.2 billion in state and local taxes per year, and adding 7.5 percent to the annual gross state product.ⁱ
- Our local government will continue to push for policies and programs that support our immigrant and refugee communities.
 - Immigrant legal defense funds
 - Know-Your-ICE-Rights Placards

Anti-Somali Trump Excerpts

“For many years, leaders in Washington brought large numbers of refugees to your state from Somalia without considering the impact on schools and communities and taxpayers,”

“I promised you that as President, I would give local communities a greater say”

“Since coming into office, I have reduced refugee resettlement by 85%.”

“I issued an executive action making clear that no refugees will be resettled in any city or any state without the express, written consent of that city or that state, so speak to your Mayor. ”

Press Q&A

What was your reaction to the President's remarks?

It was bizarre and chilling to watch.

The only cogent theme I could pull from it was that he had a lot of grievances, few solutions, and a long list of people and things he doesn't like.

For a sitting president to encourage people to boo and jeer at the mention of an entire immigrant community is racist and irresponsible.

What have you heard from the Somali community in the aftermath of the president's rhetoric?

What do you want to communicate to your Somali residents right now?

You have a loving and welcoming home in Minneapolis, and the President's hateful rhetoric does not. Our city government and your neighbors have your back.

Have you spoken with Congresswoman Omar since Thursday?

I haven't had the chance yet, no.

It's not my place to speak for the congresswoman.

I know that she's been an inspiration for people – especially young people – across the state and country. It wouldn't surprise me if she motivated some of the attacks.

GENERAL

- Here is a conviction that I think most local government officials share: government should be a vehicle for improving people's lives. When you look at the break down in trust between people and the federal government, that's really at the heart of it.
 - We govern with integrity and we look out for one another.
- On Thursday night, we are going to show with bracing clarity that we are a world-class city and that we live our values.
- Washington is presently defined by a culture of personality clashes and posturing. This president is obviously at the center of it all.
- In Minneapolis we're the government that doesn't shut down. In Minneapolis, we get things done.
 - [ACCOMPLISHMENTS]

PRESIDENT ACCUSATIONS/COSTS

- Of the conflict and the president's accusations, it's not unreasonable to expect a person pay their bill – even if they really don't like paying their bill.
 - [OTHER CITIES]
 - We're looking at nearly \$1 million in unpaid debt – not counting Minneapolis – and that's at a time when federal funding for cities is historically low.
- By the way, if you took a quick poll asking Minneapolis taxpayers who should foot the bill, you would get a decidedly clear answer that the private entity should cover costs.
 - Same goes for the Super Bowl, Final Four, or – yes a democratic rally – it's increasingly how the city does business.
 - I've got a fiduciary obligation to the taxpayers, I take that charge seriously.

POLICIES

- And to be sure, the bigger issue isn't with the President coming here. The big issue I have is with the rhetoric this president deploys to make people feel unsafe and the way he weaponizes that rhetoric through policy.
- I believe strongly that housing is a right. I believe in pursuing every available avenue to push back on a history of discrimination. And I believe in service for the sake of doing something, not being someone.

Policy Contrast

The work coming out of this White House is an affront to what we're trying to accomplish in Minneapolis and the very values that inform the work we're doing.

Housing

- Nationwide, there are only 30 units of housing affordable available for every 100 extremely low-income Americans. And while Federal rental assistance is highly effective at helping vulnerable families, rental assistance programs are deeply underfunded and the Trump Administration has actually tried to cut further, proposing a \$9.6 billion (18%) cut for 2020.
- Here in Minneapolis, we're taking our commitment to affordable housing to new heights and investing record amounts.
 - 2019 – 2020 budget (subsidy)
 - 2040 (supply)

Climate

- This Administration has chosen to ignore science, promote drilling on public land, bully states like California into abandoning clean air policies, withdraw from the Paris Climate Accord, and even sit back and watch as the lungs of the Earth burn.
- In Minneapolis, we're stepping up with aggressive and progressive climate policy. We're on a path to 100 percent renewable electricity for municipal buildings by 2022 and 100 percent city-wide by 2030. We're moving forward with multi-modal transit and reducing our carbon footprint.

Criminal Justice

- The Trump administration has approached just about every issue – from immigration to LGBTQ rights – from a punitive lens. The spikes on the wall and gators in the moat thing is yes, well-tread, but also deeply inhumane and indicative of how this president views his job.
- Minneapolis is a city of second chances and of compassion. We're doing groundbreaking work on everything from becoming the first police department in the country to outright ban warrior training to reforming cash bail and building new partnerships across the Twin Cities to provide more representation in housing court.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Housing

- \$40 million for affordable housing in the 2019 budget — triple the previous record
- Kickstarted *Stable Homes, Stable Schools*, a pilot program to provide housing to MPS students and their families experiencing homelessness
 - 341 kids in the program
- Launched *More Representation Minneapolis*, a collaboration with non-profits, law firms, and the City of Minneapolis to provide tenants facing eviction with pro-bono legal representation in housing court
- Implemented new, cost-effective 4d program to preserve existing affordable housing
- Taken abusive landlords to court to protect vulnerable tenants

Immigration

- Installed “Know-Your-ICE-Rights” signs in MPD squad cars to protect our undocumented immigrant community from draconian deportation practices
- Funded immigrant legal defense

Climate Change

- Minneapolis won the American Cities Climate Challenge for our work to combat climate change
- Created infrastructure to support cleaner and more affordable transit (bus-only lanes, mobility hubs)
- Created an award winning Green Business Cost Share program that charges polluters for how much they emit and uses those funds to support businesses trying to go green.
- Energy efficient affordable housing (4d program)

Police Reform

- Strengthened our police department’s body camera policy with enforcement measures
 - (55% when we took office 95% today)
- Banned warrior-training that teaches our police officers to view the community as a constant threat
- Passed new reforms to the MPD sexual assault investigations policy

Other unpaid rally costs

Municipality	Rally date	Unpaid bill	What government officials say
El Paso, Texas	Feb. 11, 2019	\$570,417.05	“I’m hopeful they’ll pay. I’m hopeful they’ll do what’s right. People that don’t pay their bills — that’s a character integrity issue.” — El Paso Mayor Dee Margo
Tucson, Ariz.	Ma. 19, 2016	\$81,837.00	“In connection with these events, we will always provide the law enforcement and public safety support and response that is necessary to ensure the safety of the public. But [in the future] we intend to use revised agreements that identify certain costs that we expect the campaign to cover.” — Tucson Chief of Staff Lane Mandle
Spokane, Wash.	7-May-16	\$65,124.69	“I would expect anyone who is billed for police services to pay their fair share.” — Spokane City Council President Ben Stuckart ... Police officials are attempting to collect payment from the Trump campaign and “councilmembers have urged them to be proactive in collecting that bill.” — Spokane City Councilmember Breean Beggs ... “Let’s be honest, when does Trump ever pay his bills?” — Spokane City Council member Kate Burke

Mesa, Ariz.	Oct. 19, 2018	\$64,467.56	“It is our hope that the organization will do right by the taxpayers of Mesa and provide payment in a timely manner.” — Mesa Deputy City Manager Scott Butler
Eau Claire, Wis.	Apr. 2, 2016	\$47,398.00	
Billings, Mont.	Sept. 6, 2018	\$42,811.00	“The chief of police made an in-person request to Trump’s campaign manager for the Billings office for reimbursement. No payment received and no communication.” — Billings Police Chief Rich St. John
Erie, Pa.	Oct. 10, 2018	\$35,129.27	“We believed that the level of security that was required was costly and that it was reasonable for us to be reimbursed given the fact that it was a campaign rally, and the president was also here conducting a high-end fundraiser.” — Renée M. Lamis, chief of staff for Erie Mayor Joe Schember
Lebanon, Ohio	Oct. 12, 2018	\$16,191.00	“There’s a lot of benefit when a president comes here: economic benefits, more visibility for our community. It’s exciting and great for the community. But I would hope and believe the Trump campaign would pay its bills. It’s our taxpayer dollars.” — Lebanon Mayor Amy Brewer

Green Bay, Wis.	Aug. 5, 2016	\$9,380.00	“We appreciate, and we feel honored, when the candidates come to Green Bay. We are also very appreciative when they honor their debts.” — Celestine Jeffreys, chief of staff for Mayor Jim Schmitt
Burlington, Vt.	Jan. 7, 2016	\$8,464.27	“Mr. Trump’s failure to cooperate with local law enforcement officials and lack of communication with the public and ticketholders put undue strain on the City’s police, and unnecessarily hurt downtown businesses. Paying the invoice remains the right and honorable thing for Mr. Trump to do.” — Burlington Mayor Miro Weinberger, in June 2016
Total:		\$941,219.84	

FYI – Initial statement (September 26, 2019)

Mayor Jacob Frey: *“Under ordinary circumstances, it would be an honor to welcome a sitting President of the United States to Minneapolis and to showcase all our city has to offer on the national stage. But these aren’t ordinary circumstances. Since taking office President Trump’s actions have been reprehensible and his rhetoric has made it clear that he does not value the perspectives or rights of Minneapolis’ diverse communities.*

“On October 10, our entire city will stand not behind the President, but behind the communities and people who continue to make our city – and this country – great. While there is no legal mechanism to prevent the president from visiting, his message of hatred will never be welcome in Minneapolis.”

FYI – Prepared Remarks, October 10 Availability

When news broke of the upcoming campaign rally, I said that under ordinary circumstances, it would be an honor to welcome a sitting president. I also said that these aren’t ordinary circumstances.

Here’s what I meant when I wrote that.

In Minneapolis, we stand up for our neighbors.

We welcome people from all over the world.

And we are united in the belief that our diversity is a source of strength.

That is the premise and the promise of this great nation.

Upholding those ideals is an expectation built into the very office of the president.

And for the first time in my lifetime, we as a country are watching a president persistently fail to meet that most basic expectation.

That doesn’t mean that we in Minneapolis can abandon our ideals or fail to meet our core responsibilities and expectations.

City government will do its part, *and* we’ll do it with excellence.

The Minneapolis Police Department has been collaborating closely with neighboring jurisdictions and the Secret Service to ensure the safety of every individual in our city.

Our Public Works Department is planning carefully and in touch with private sector partners to ensure as little disruption as possible for those who live and work downtown.

Each and every city department from Civil Rights to Regulatory Services is working to help guarantee a safe and peaceful week in our city.

So whether you are attending the event in support or protesting the it in opposition ... we will do everything possible to ensure your safety.

Your safety is our responsibility, it is our top priority, and we take our charge very seriously.

In turn, I have an ask of all of you.

Whether you're visiting or you live here, I ask that you not lose sight of the fact that you are here with your neighbors ... that you are here alongside mothers and daughters, fathers and sons – people – all embracing the most fundamental rights that are protected under our constitution.

If you see cruelty call it out; answer it with kindness.

If you see hate counter it with love.

And above all, please join us in keeping the peace on Thursday.

We will show with bracing clarity that Minneapolis is a world-class city and that we will not take the bait.

We will not be baited by any one person or an ugly line from a meandering speech.

We are bigger than that.

We will, and we must, rise above.

Press Q/A on AEG, Trump Visit

How do you respond to the president's allegation that you're abusing your office, extorting him, exerting political influence to stifle the First Amendment?

It's not extortion to expect that someone pay their bills, even if that person really hates paying their bills.

What I'm doing is watching out for our taxpayers, something that the president should be doing as well.

We've asked AEG to abide by the existing contract we have with them. In doing so, the associated operational costs should be covered. As to how AEG handles their relationship with the campaign, that's their business.

What was your role in AEG's decision to try and get the \$530,000? How'd you come up with that figure?

The city of Minneapolis has a contract with AEG as our booking agent for the Target Center. As part of that contract, we expect to be reimbursed for the operational costs.

Now, we don't have a contract with the Trump campaign – that's AEG's. But we will be making sure that we uphold our contract with AEG.

This is increasingly how we do business for large-scale events, whether that's the Super Bowl or yes a rally for a democratic candidate.

For context, the City's public safety and other essential services costs during the Super Bowl in 2018 was roughly \$6 million and \$1.5 million for the Final Four earlier this year. The City has used the same methodology to determine public safety, traffic control and other costs for the upcoming rally at Target Center.

The public safety costs are expected to be around \$400,000.

Another \$130,000 in additional costs are expected to be incurred for third-party barriers, lane closure fees and traffic control, among other things.

What are the chances that the event will be canceled?

Ask AEG or the Trump campaign. Our position on the city's contract with AEG is clear. All we're looking to do is recover the operational costs covered under the contract, and I think that's a pretty fair position to hold.

Is it true that the city charged President Obama \$20,000 for his 2009 rally?

That certainly predates my time in office, and I know that staff are digging into that figure.

But back then, he was coming on behalf of the White House to discuss healthcare policy, not joining on behalf of his campaign.

Second, things have changed – public safety requirements have changed and this is increasingly the way cities, ours included, approach large-scale events.

That includes a visit from President Trump. Cities need to be flexible and adaptable, and we are being responsive to the needs of our taxpayers.

How did you come up with the \$530,000 figure? And who came up with that?

The public safety costs are expected to be around \$400,000.

Another \$130,000 in additional costs are expected to be incurred for third-party barriers, lane closure fees and traffic control, among other things.

Will officers be wearing uniforms? Will those on duty be allowed to wear the cops for Trump shirts?

On-duty officers will be there in uniforms representing the police department with the obligation to keep everyone safe – regardless of whether they are there in support or in opposition.

Do you want to see the event canceled?

That's not for me to decide.

This isn't about me or my political persuasion. We stand up for people's First Amendment rights, irrespective of whether I share them or not.

City's role moving forward?

As far as the legal side is concerned, the contract is between AEG and the campaign.

Now, we have a separate contract with AEG and that is for booking the Target Center. As we've made clear we expect that number to be followed.

T-shirts and the message they send?

Our officers, like anyone else, has a right to free speech and to support whichever candidate they choose. However as soon as they dawn that uniform, they are neither democrat nor republican. They are upholding a sacred duty to uphold the safety and welfare of all Minneapolis residents.

I'll add that the Chief's policy prohibiting uniformed officers from participating in political activities is not a novel concept. It's the standard for nearly all major departments across the country and it's past time we got it done.

Are Trump supporters, is the President welcome in Minneapolis?

Everyone deserves to feel welcome in our city. What we will never welcome in our city is hateful rhetoric ... rhetoric that seeks to divide people. And nowhere have seen this president deploy that rhetoric more routinely than at our campaign rallies.

How'd you feel about the president attacking you this morning on Twitter?

It's an interesting way to start the day. I'm kind of surprised he's got enough time to do so as frequently as he does.

When I wake up, I take my responsibility to the 430,000 odd people of Minneapolis very seriously. He's got 327 million constituents, so I'm surprised he's got the time to do this.

FYI – Contract language

"Arena Operating Expenses" means all costs, expenses and liabilities arising from and associated with the occupancy, use, operation, promotion, management, maintenance and repair of the Arena, including associated overheads of AEG and its Affiliates, the costs of casualty and liability insurance and indemnification as provided herein, Impositions, all expenses and costs of events held at the Arena, and each and every expense arising from and associated with the operation of concessions at the Arena. Arena Operating Expenses shall not include Capital Improvements except as provided for in Section 5.7, the payment of principal or interest on the City Bonds or MCDA Bonds or expenses or costs of the City or MCDA arising from or related to its oversight and administrative obligations under this Agreement, the Other Principal Agreements, the City Indenture or the MCDA Indenture. The provision in certain sections of this Agreement that the cost and expense of performing certain covenants constitutes Arena Operating Expenses does not thereby mean or imply that costs and expenses associated with other covenants and agreements of AEG in this Agreement are not Arena Operating Expenses, the intent of this definition being to include all costs, expenses and liabilities associated with the Arena, except those specifically excluded herein. Transition Expenses shall be considered as part of the Arena Operating Expenses.

ⁱ <http://www.startribune.com/immigrants-give-minnesota-more-than-they-take/489932041/>