

Dear Senator King,

As members of the Toppenish Public Safety Committee, we are writing to express our deep concern regarding the ongoing public safety issues in our community. In recent years, the City of Toppenish has faced a significant challenge in addressing drug-related activities, associated violence, and other inappropriate behaviors. These incidents, including public indecency and open sexual activity, have become a disturbing pattern, negatively impacting the quality of life for our residents.

Despite the City of Toppenish's efforts to increase patrols, we are limited by resource constraints and the challenges posed by our geographic location. With only 14 commissioned police officers, the Toppenish Police Department often struggles to respond promptly to emergency calls, especially during peak hours. This lack of personnel can lead to delays in response times and a feeling of insecurity among our residents.

We believe that additional funding and resources are essential to address these pressing public safety concerns. By investing in increased police presence, improved street-lighting, and necessary equipment, we can enhance the safety and well-being of our community. We urge you to consider our recommendations and support measures to strengthen public safety in Toppenish. By working together, we can create a safer and more enjoyable environment for our residents.

Sincerely,

Toppenish Public Safety Committee

Cristian Sanchez  
Councilmember

Dan Ford  
City Manager

Naila Prieto Duval  
Councilmember

Joseph Mehline  
Police Chief

George Garica  
Councilmember

Tim Smith  
Fire Chief