

Community Feedback on the Draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Johns Hopkins Police Department (JHPD) and Baltimore Police Department (BPD) DISPOSITION REPORT

In August of 2022, Johns Hopkins University (“JHU” or the “University”) announced that the University was beginning the gradual and thoughtful process to build the Johns Hopkins Police Department (“JHPD”). One of the first steps in that sequence was the drafting of a memorandum of understanding (“MOU”) with the Baltimore Police Department (“BPD”). Such agreements are the usual way that university police departments and city police departments put on paper their agreement and understandings around how they will work together to protect the area. This MOU between JHU and BPD is unique both because it was shared for public review and feedback and because it included a number of the key provisions of the state law that authorizes the creation of the JHPD.

The University shared the draft MOU with the Accountability Board and the broader community, including neighbors, for feedback on September 19, 2022, and launched an extensive MOU community engagement process, which included:

- A 30-day public comment period after which the City Council had 30 days to review the draft MOU and provide written comments;
- Three public town halls to provide opportunities (for our community of students, faculty, staff, and neighbors to learn more about the MOU; and
- A series of individual and small group meetings with Vice President Bard to discuss the MOU and the JHPD implementation timeline.

This Disposition Report lists the feedback submitted – more than 250 unique comments and questions¹ – during the 30-day public comment period (September 19, 2022 through October 18, 2022) and the subsequent 30-day City Council review and feedback period (October 19, 2022 through November 17, 2022),² and notes the disposition of the feedback in regard to the final MOU.

The feedback herein is presented verbatim³ and is organized into three sections:

- (1) **MOU Recommendations:** Specific, actionable recommendations relating to the MOU
- (2) **Questions and Comments on JHPD and/or the MOU:** Questions seeking clarification on the MOU or other aspects of the JHPD
- (3) **General Feedback on the JHPD – Pro and Con:** General comments and questions for and against the creation of the JHPD

¹ Comments sent multiple times were counted once.

² Although the 30-day public comment period ended October 18, 2022, JHU committed to continuing to receive and consider all feedback from the public through the City Council feedback period, which was in effect from October 19 to November 17, 2022.

³ Typographical errors are left as is. The only adjustments made are in the case of personal identifying information, which was redacted, and in the case of comments that contained multiple points or extended lists, which were in some cases divided and organized into their appropriate sections.

(1) MOU Recommendations

Johns Hopkins committed to adopt, incorporate, or otherwise reflect recommended changes and feedback in the final version of the MOU between JHPD and BPD so long as the feedback is aligned with JHU values and commitments, permissible within legal parameters, aligned with community and officer safety best practices, and acceptable to BPD.

Below is a list of the feedback that was focused specifically on the MOU document. The right-hand column describes whether/how each comment is addressed in the MOU and/or other aspects of JHPD implementation.

MOU Recommendations	Disposition
<p>In the title, you use one form of Baltimore Police Department and in the first paragraph you use another form of the same (Baltimore Policy Department v. The Baltimore City Police Department). I know you are talking about the same entity, however, they should read the same.</p>	<p>Correction: Adopted on p. 1 of the MOU.</p>
<p>In the first WHEREAS clause, you use the term, memorandum of understanding. You already defined that in the first paragraph so it should read, "MOU."</p>	<p>Correction: Adopted on p. 1 of the MOU.</p>
<p>I have serious concerns about the enforcement of traffic laws under the draft MOU. The streets surrounding the East Baltimore Campus are currently extremely dangerous for cyclists and pedestrians because traffic laws are essentially unenforced e.g. parking in the Monument St bike lane. I struggle to see how this situation will improve if traffic enforcement on the Hopkins campus is primarily under the jurisdiction of BPD. I think it is unlikely that BPD will be actively patrolling the areas within the Hopkins campus meaning that any traffic enforcement will be reactive and not proactive in nature.</p> <p>I cannot stress to you enough that the most significant threat on a daily basis to my safety as a Hopkins employee is getting hit by a car getting to and from work. It is disappointing that the draft MOU makes no effort to improve those conditions.</p>	<p>Traffic Enforcement: Adopted on p. 5 of the MOU.</p>
<p>I am concerned about the expansion of boundaries. While the MOU states that further expansion must be approved by the City Council and Mayor, which would imply but not guarantee community input, it also allows for the Mayor alone to approve expansion of boundaries under specific situations. It does not say how long these periods of "temporary" expansion are to last. My concern is that Hopkins will use this to further their boundaries during an "emergency" and then keep them in place. I would like to see language requiring that, after a specific and very short period of time, the temporary expansion must be reviewed by City Council and include community input to continue or be ended immediately.</p>	<p>Boundaries: Adopted on p. 6 of the MOU.</p>

My line item feedback on the MOU. Essentially, I offer four over-arching suggestions:

- A. Suggesting upfront language that the constitutional rights will be predicted for people of all races, ages, abilities, etc
- B. Adding few places where the accountability board would be involved in providing recommendations
- C. Reducing the number of police officers from BPD given that the US Depart of Justice has called out racial profiling among their officers; we do not want to risk bringing that into the JHPD
- D. Suggestions that officer who does not use body cameras at all times will be terminated (this might be something for the P&P document, but am not sure if it belongs here too)

Constitutional Rights:

Adopted on p. 1 of the MOU.

Accountability Board:

Covered by the Community Safety and Strengthening Act (Md. Code Ann., Education § 24-1205), which defines the roles and responsibilities of the JH Accountability Board.

BPD Officers:

Not adopted; MOU prohibits the JHPD from hiring more than five (5) former BPD officers per year; JHPD implementation will require additional training and accountability of all officers to prevent and address bias in policing.

Body Cameras:

Referred to Public Safety and JH Accountability Board for consideration during development of body worn camera policy.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft MOU!

- 1. B.1.3 and K.5, Additional costs. Overtime pay has caused scandals in many police departments. If the City requests JHPD support, and as a result JHPD personnel incur overtime, will the City cover the costs? What about covering costs in general when the Mayor or the BPD makes a request of JHPD? The MOU seems one-sided in charging additional costs to JHPD when JHPD requests help, but not the other way around.
- 2. B.3 "A police officer ... many not exercise power ... unless: 1) engaged in fresh pursuit" Most style guides say to change "unless:" to just "unless" without a colon. Here's the MLA: <https://style.mla.org/colons-how-to-use-them/>
- 3. H.3.4, JHPD shall be responsible ... for prisoner transport for those individuals who JHPD officers have arrest => "for those individuals whom JHPD officers have arrested," or to sound less pedantic, "for those individuals who have been arrested by JHPD officers".

Costs: Not adopted; MOU reflects intention for BPD to incur no additional costs due to JHPD.

Correction: Adopted on p. 5 of the MOU.

Correction: Adopted on p. 9 of the MOU.

4. H.5, Since CBIF is the acronym, should this be the Central Booking and Intake Facility rather than the Central Intake and Booking Center?

Correction: Adopted on p. 9 of the MOU.

As President of the BFSAs, I am particularly interested in understanding what – if any role – the Office of Institutional Equity (OIE) will play with the JHPD. During a recent SGA meeting students asked specific questions about this relationship. Assuming that OIE’s mandate will extend to JHPD officers, I recommend stating that in the MOU. That clarification will be very important for our community at Hopkins and has a heightened importance to our undergraduate students.

Office of Institutional Equity: Adopted on p. 19 - 20 of the MOU.

Here is feedback related to the private police force I would like to see integrated into the MOU and wasn't able to share during the live stream.

- **Boundaries:** The MOU should explicitly limit the jurisdictional boundaries to the three campuses indicated. As it stands, Hopkins is the largest land owner in the city and it seems reasonable to think that they will likely procure more land over time (a nonprofit land owner like this in a poor city is its own problem for taxation purposes). I'm concerned that eventually, JHU will apply their policing powers to more properties they already own, vastly expanding the areas where private police are present (ex. the Carey School of Business, the JHU-MICA Film Center, that random stretch of row homes on the 2700 block of Charles, etc.).
- **Accountability:** The JHU police force should expressly indicate that they are bound to the same FOIA requirements as the BPD. We know that court rulings related to the Univ. of Chicago police force indicate that private police forces are not subject to FOIA, but in the interest of constitutional policing this creates a huge challenge to transparency. Write this into the MOU.

Boundaries: Covered by Section B(1)(a) of the MOU, which limits the JHPD "campus area" to properties (1) owned, leased, or operated by, or under the control of Johns Hopkins University; (2) located within specific boundaries on the Homewood, Peabody, and East Baltimore campuses; and (3) used for institutional or educational purposes.² Any expansion of those boundaries into neighboring communities would first require a new executed MOU with BPD and majority community support.

Public Access to Records: Covered in part by the Community Safety and Strengthening Act (Md. Code Ann., Education § 24-1210), which mandates public access to certain JHPD records.³

⁴ Campus area includes public property immediately adjacent to the campus, including: (i) a sidewalk, a street, or any other thoroughfare; and (ii) a parking facility.

⁵ The JHPD is required to provide public access to (1) records created solely for law enforcement purposes; or (2) related to an arrest, provided those records would be subject to disclosure under the Maryland Public Information Act. See Md. Code Ann., Education § 24-1210 (A).

(2) Questions and Comments on JHPD and/or the MOU

Feedback included questions and comments on specific topics, some related to the MOU and some related to the JHPD more broadly. All of these questions and comments are being shared with Public Safety leadership and the [JH Accountability Board](#) for careful review and consideration throughout the implementation process, including as they work to develop JHPD policies.

These issues also are addressed on the [Johns Hopkins Public Safety website](#), which is being regularly updated as feedback and inquiries are received. In particular, please see:

- [JHPD Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [JH Accountability Board Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [JHPD Legal Framework and Commitments](#)
- [DRAFT MOU Overview Slide Deck](#)

Questions and Comments

At yesterday's town hall you mentioned that in some cases there might be a "double response" by BPD and JHPD. What kind of communication will exist between the two parties to ensure that there is coordination in response that minimizes the use for deadly force?

I completely reviewed and have read this important MOU and fully agreed with the very critical points. but I just wanted to mention some bellow points if added in:

1. A proper focal point whom should be hired through the BSPH for strictly follow up with security officers with both JHU and governmental police department .
2. The rights to the risk of JHU staff ? because the staff of the JHU is not exceptional from the risk of attack of knife, gun and others if happened.
3. The MOU should be adapted or implemented as a pilot for a while, to the see and to know the result and positive impact.
4. The sustainability of the MOU ?

Are there other universities in Baltimore that have their own police departments?

Why doesn't the jurisdiction include the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center Campus?

Why are some campuses excluded like Eastern?

How does more police bring safety? What empirical evidence can you site that proves this?

Question:

What are the other layers ("among others", line 3 before last) aside from the JHU PAB, the BCABACC, and the BCCRB listed at the end of the page?

Comment:

The PAB should be more independent from the administration (the track record is that Hopkins paused it in August 2020 following the 2-year pause announced in June 2020 and you reactivated it when you joined Hopkins).

I welcome the shift from the administration to the Board members themselves for all decisions related to the functioning of the Board.

What will happen to all of the current Hopkins security officers? Will they become JHPD?

Will folks who are opposed to the JHPD be on the oversight board?

A lot of non-Hopkins affiliates are in the proposed police area. How can Hopkins administer "safety" for folks in the community if this is by & for Hopkins? If a community member is shot by JHPD, what is the process for accountability?

1. What is the process by which @johnshopkins will decide that "over 50%" of the community is in support of expansion of police force? What is the definition of community in those areas? Homeowners, Residents, landowners, Businesses? This is completely confusing. I'm concerned about an ever growing police force with a shadow support group. You also did not address why this boundary is not shown on your maps.
 2. You did not previously address the comment about the previous town hall by JHU.
 3. Why is @johnshopkins currently not utilizing a virtually interactive piece of software that could allow for the community to choose what questions get asked instead of Johns Hopkins?
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What is JHPD going to do to make a positive impact on the community they will be serving

In one of the town halls when asked about how the proposed JHPD would deal with the JHH "no guns" policy, VP Bard stated that the jurisdiction of JHPD only covered educational buildings, implying that the JHH complex is not part of the jurisdiction. Can we get confirmation on whether or not any of the JHH facilities where patient care takes place (but also student instruction takes place) will fall under the jurisdiction of JHPD? If it does fall under that jurisdiction, can more information on what patrolling of these buildings will look like, specifically if armed officers will be stationed/regularly patrolling INSIDE of any building where medical care takes place?

Are the street boundaries as defined by the MD legislature the boundary for JHPD? And as long as it is within the boundary, it is under JHPD jurisdiction independent of whether it is JH owned or privately owned?

911 is already an overwhelmed resource. How will we reinforce or increase their #s? Also are we considering peer mental health counselors to accompany law enforcement instead of relying on one clinician

How is student safety addressed in the MOU?

Is there certifiable, peer reviewed, data on the support of the JHU community as well as the Baltimore community for the creation of a JHU police force?

What weapons other than hand guns will JHPD possess, train with and/or utilize?

How will the JHUPD deal with perpetrators who commit crimes on campus but escape the boundaries of the JHU campuses to surrounding neighborhoods?

Why do the boundaries include areas that are currently residential properties, including the street along Remington Avenue between 27th and 28th? Why would you want to police residents in the future?

What effort has been made to reach out to homeowners whose private property now falls under the JHPD jurisdiction? What efforts have been made to inform them of these changes?

Also, I would like more information about the training that these new officers would undergo as part of the JHPD. Specifically, how many hours of training will they undergo until there is a state sanctioned gun in their hands? How will their readiness to be in the field be assessed? What specific training related to individuals in psychiatric crisis will be provided. We need more than qualitative descriptions about the type of training to be provided.

As The university expands will JHPD expand as well?

BPD are currently facing a significant deficit (about 600 vacancies) in patrol officers. When JHPD has newly trained and armed officers, will BDP pull resources from JHPD to help cover overtime shifts in other districts of the city?

BPD offers yearly bonus for officers with advanced degrees, will JHPD offer the same or similar bonus incentives?

Can you provide a detailed accounting of what outreach you have done to date to neighboring organizations and residences that fall within the proposed jurisdiction outlined in the MOU to inform them?

Why is JHPD only limited to 5 current BPD members per year?

Will the JHPD be subject to Freedom of Information (FOIA) procedures?

How many incidents have occurred within the proposed JHPD in the last year or so that could not have been addressed by unarmed police?

Will the JHUPD have specialized units?

What kind of benefits will a JHPD officer receive?

Would the map be amended as I pointed out a sizable number of addresses that are JH owned but not highlighted on the map, and >> 10 addresses not JH owned or operated, but highlighted in green, graphically designated to be under the jurisdiction of JHPD.

In your description of "and" rather than "or", I infer that it refers to the excerpts from MD Senate Bill 793:

"I" states "owned, leased, operated by, or under the control of the University.

"II" states "Located on" "the east Baltimore campus, meaning the area bounded by East Eager Street on the north, East Baltimore Street on the south, North Caroline Street on the west, and North Castle Street on the East,

"III" used for educational or institutional purposes.

If the 3 requirements were drawn as a Venn diagram, would it be the intersection of I, II, and III, where the 3 criteria are simultaneously satisfied? If so, the map is inaccurate and has become a source of confusion.

My understanding is that the Clary Act reporting requires that crime that happens across the street of campus be reported as campus crime. Dr. Bard stated that there is a concern that people might not want to come to Hopkins as staff, faculty, student or visitor because of the perception of crime. If part of the goal is to improve crime occurrence and statistics, then the improvement needs to extend across the street. Would that mean if a mugging takes place across the street from a Hopkins facility on the sidewalk, it would fall into the jurisdiction of JHPD, but if a private residence just beyond the sidewalk is burglarized, it would not fall into the jurisdiction of JHPD?

Public Comment Period Formatting

Vice President Bard, in your announcement of August 23 and since, you have said repeatedly that you are interested in the comments of the larger public, not just affiliates. And, indeed, the law requires that you solicit the input of the public. Then why hold both town halls in comparatively inaccessible, not especially welcoming on-campus facilities, rather than in more neutral and accessible venues off-campus? And why make the 30 day public comment period so heavily dependent on on-line input, when we know that older and lower income residents are less likely to use on-line comment formats?

This message pertains to the lack of exact dates defining the 30-day comment period.

Since the draft of the MOU was made available on September 19, 2022 (3 days before the first town hall), how come the timeline above (MOU process) on the website page has not been updated with specific dates?

Right now, it doesn't look transparent at all because it is unclear whether the 2 comment periods are concomitant or will follow each other. They are supposed to follow each other, so that your office can present the public feedback you have received during the first comment period to the City Council.

Why not calculate the exact dates so that everyone knows when those comment periods end? Just giving the months (September/October/November) is not accurate nor appropriate considering the late date the draft came out.

I live on Remington Ave just a few blocks from the proposed boundaries, and I am highly concerned about this proposal, which has not adequately followed the process outlined in the law JHU put forward. You described that the MOU says if an incident occurs within the boundaries, JHPD will be the primary responder. If something happens on the sidewalk, who has jurisdiction? How can we be sure that the grey area at the edge of the boundaries won't cause confusion and lead to endangering lives?

After reviewing the document, I feel the plan is encompassing enough to get started.

I am curious about the weapons that will be permitted to protect the officers and staff/patients from the perpetrators.

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- "The JHPD will be responsible for patrolling Johns Hopkins' buildings and property within the campus area and will serve as the first responder for all calls within the campus area that require a police response" Will the types of patrol be clarified at a later point or are they already well defined? I know many in the past of raised concerns with police just driving around in cars as opposed to 'walking the beat' and actually being out in the open and publicly available/visible.
 - "JHPD officers will be trained and certified to carry firearms in the course of their duties, just like other university police departments in Baltimore City and the state of Maryland... The JHPD is prohibited from acquiring military-grade vehicles or military-grade hardware that is not otherwise available to the public for commercial sale in the State of Maryland." Will the types of arms that officers will actually be carrying and when they will be carrying them be clarified at some point? For example will 'beat' officers be having the typical taser + 9mm/.45 pistol + body armor array or will some be also carrying semi-auto rifles or higher capacity magazines than standard pistols? I think an understanding of what exactly 'armed' means would be helpful since in theory I can commercially buy a shotgun, assault rifles, high capacity magazines, etc. so long as I register them but the students and community may not feel comfortable with those types of weapons on the 'beat' officers as opposed to officers directly responding to a violent crime where greater armament may be justified.
 - "the JHPD will not replace our existing public safety officers. When fully implemented, the JHPD will be narrow in scope - no more than 100 personnel - and only one element of our overall public safety approach" I've heard this question a few times: what is the general estimate of how many of those 100 personnel will be armed officers versus admin, dispatchers, etc.?
 - "When the JHPD is in place, the BHCST will continue to operate as a partnership between our specially-trained unarmed public safety officers and our behavioral health clinicians" Will BHCST also work with armed officers when appropriate? If not, why not?
 - "Johns Hopkins will require training in lawful searches, recognizing and mitigating the impact of implicit bias, and preventing racially biased policing ... Training for the JHPD will meet the rigorous standards outlined in the legislation and be consistent with the core values of our institution" When looking at the legislation (which was a bit dense and also looked like it was heavily type-edited), I didn't see any mention of nationally standardized trainings/certification programs like IADLEST or similar that addresses some of the issues mentioned. Is there a plan to incorporate those?
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Are you willing to publicise any and all faculty, staff, and internal organizational support or opposition letters that you have received from Johns Hopkins Students, Staff, or Faculty?

If not how can the public trust that Johns Hopkins is willing to comply with the MPIA laws in the state of Maryland that JHPD is required to follow.

1. The current map that is shown online does not represent the language that is in the MOU that states JHU can expand its police force boundaries without further action from Annapolis, including residential homes on Calvert street, and Remington Avenue on the Homewood Campus. Can you please explain to me why the current map on the website is currently omitting the outline of the area listed in the MOU that JHU has previously shared in communications? That map is CC'd here for you to show.
2. The last Homewood campus virtual hearing barely had any community feedback, and was very poorly organized due to the haste which JHU put the virtual session in place, including stating multiple different emails during the session. I believe that JHU should hold another session for the homewood campus, either in person or virtually. I'm not upset that the last forum was cancelled as protest is the foundation of a functioning democracy.

I have a question regarding the MOU, can you please clarify if all records from the public forums will be accessible under the MPIA laws including any and all questions that are asked and internal email regarding the protests?

Will the citizens have access to the body worn camera footage like they do with BPD?

Looks decent to me. Glad to see this coming to fruition. As a former Hop Cop myself, I'm glad to see a way that arrests made by Hopkins officers can finally get processed, rather than be at the mercy of a lone Northern District officer's whim, often leading to the release of criminals we'd made great effort to catch. The proposed boundary maps were very interesting. Can I assume that Johns Hopkins Campus Special Police Officers, Campus Security Officers and contract security officers will continue to patrol areas surrounding the Homewood Campus which are NOT highlighted as within the jurisdiction of the JHPD? I specifically thinking about areas in Remington and Charles Village where I often see officers in their hi-vis uniforms or in campus patrol vehicles. (Or at least I used to see them in these areas)

Will the position of Special Police Officer at Homewood be done away with?

Also, I noticed that Kennedy Krieger Institute's entire 707 N. Broadway building is within the proposed boundaries of the JHPD. Is that so because of the tunnel that connects KKI with the Turner Auditorium, etc.?

How does the notification to deploy the JHUPD system work? Should individuals on campus call 911 or a JHUPD specific number?

This question pertains to the weapons that the JHPD officers will carry.

I could not find anything about this topic in the MOU: is this issue still completely open and dealt with later on under 'policies' discussed with the Accountability Board?

If there is one issue that is gathering the most opposition, it is the fact that the JHPD will be armed. When and where will the details be posted?

If the answer to my previous question (posted separately) regarding 'strict' boundaries (GREEN area) v. 'porous' boundaries (Homewood perimeter) is indeed the GREEN map, how would the need for armed officers be justified?

There is at least one precedent for a private police department on a Baltimore campus to be unarmed: our neighbor Loyola University. We urge the administration to seriously consider the absence of weapons within the JHPD.

Thank you for your consideration,

Hello,

I have many concerns and questions about the formation of the JHPD. This includes:

1. What police force has authority over other Hopkins affiliated areas including Bayview campus, Carey Business School, etc.?
2. In the MOU, it says city council can approve jurisdiction of "adjacent areas" - what is that process supposed to look like?
3. What entails a fresh pursuit? What are the geographic limits of a fresh pursuit for JHPD?
4. In the MOU, there is a provision that the mayor can authorize expansion of JHPD - when can that happen? What is the process?
5. A huge concern I have is lack of transparency of who is paying for the JHPD, what the budget will look like, what is the proportion of funds going to JHPD versus other public safety initiatives, contributions to address the root cause of crime, and budgets of other departments including student education, student activities, etc.
6. Who reviews body camera footage? Who investigates bad actors?
7. How does JHPD choose between BPD resources versus a private lab for processing evidence?
8. Who determines when medical mental evaluations can happen? Who determines whether these evaluations will happen before or after central booking?
9. What are the geographic limitations of a warrant? When does JHPD need to notify other jurisdictions if they are in pursuit of someone outside of JHPD jurisdiction?
10. What specific data is collected, analyzed, and interpreted by Baltimore Police Department?
11. Why is so much of the MOU modeled after the Baltimore Police Department if the supposed justification is that Hopkins needs its own superior police force?
12. Would Baltimore Police Department be brought in for student protests?
13. When is mental health crisis team deployed versus armed officers?
14. It is extremely concerning that we have been asking about specifics regarding the recruitment and training process since March 2018, and there are no specific details on how this will be done, especially given the rapid timeline proposed to deploy the force.
15. If Baltimore Police Department fires someone for misconduct, can this person be hired by JHPD?
16. Is JHPD officer recruitment limited to city residents?

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft MOU!

1. B.1.a, Campus area. The text says the Homewood east boundary is Calvert St, but the map shows Lovegrove and St Paul. Am I misunderstanding something?
2. As a separate point, I see that islands are permitted for East Baltimore and Peabody. Would it be possible to add islands for the JHU-MICA Film Centre at Station North and for Stieff?
3. D.1, Criminal investigations. The list of Group A offenses covered by JHPD seems too narrow in leaving out what are some of the main offenses that I see in incident reports: Assault Offenses, Sex Offenses, Robbery. What was the rationale for leaving these out?

Will JHPD officers carry naloxone, and how will they be trained to response to potential opiate overdoses?

Nationwide, there have been issues with the use of bodycams. How will this be prevented with the JHPD?

Can a JHPD officer leave and go to Baltimore City Police Department? And if so, will they have to do another academy or will that training they do for Hopkins count?

If the Baltimore City Police Department is struggling to hire officers, how will the JHUPD recruit and retain officers? Understanding that you all cannot solicit BPD officers directly?

Will there be a pipeline for JH security officers to become JHPD officers?

Dear Dr. Bard: This question is about the jurisdiction boundaries of the JHPD. I understand that the maps of our three campuses have been up on the Public Safety website for a long time with the clear GREEN area defined. Please let me explain why it is still not clear to all of us, through the example of the Homewood campus. Upon reading the MOU, we actually find 3 definitions of 'campus area' on page 4:

- the narrow definition in section B, 1, a) (i) of the buildings owned by Hopkins;
- the expanded definition that 'includes the public property that is immediately adjacent to the campus'
- and, in-between those two definitions, there is the Homewood area perimeter, which is much larger.

The GREEN area covers the narrow and expanded definitions. The ambiguity concerns the larger perimeter.

Considering that:

- the JHPD will have to cross the larger perimeter to reach the JHU owned buildings;
- there are Group A offenses under its jurisdiction that seem to only pertain to the larger perimeter (car theft: I have never read of any car theft on the narrow limits of campus);
- there are exceptions to the boundaries (including section B, 3);

would you be able to confirm which boundaries will be used when it comes to asking the City and the community for approval before the JHPD can exercise police powers in 'areas adjacent to the Campus area' (section B, 2)? In that section B, 2 section, do 'areas adjacent to the Campus area' mean adjacent to the GREEN campus or adjacent to the larger perimeter? In other words: will they need that permission to exercise police powers on Calvert (outside the GREEN area) or not (inside the Homewood perimeter)?

The boundaries seem to be porous and the MOU, the way I understand it, cultivates that ambiguity - while the map shows very strict boundaries: how can we reconcile the two? Whenever asked, representatives of your office always refer to the green map: doesn't the MOU contradict this answer?

Thank you so much in advance for sending me a reply: it will be very helpful to get this ambiguity lifted once and for all.

I am all for the safety of Johns Hopkins Employees if there is a protocol observed for screening officers hired for this for racial awareness and empathy and excluding the ones that could pose danger based on their biased thinking to people of color.

Will Baltimore police investigate accusations of misconduct or corruption in the JHPD?

Will affiliates receive different treatment than community members when it comes to arrests, interventions, etc.? Will the officers be allowed to ask about this status?

Will there be JHPD officers on Baltimore city police task forces?

Will the JHUPD adopt similar policies to the BPD?

What policies will be put in place to prevent the police department to not target students of color and ensure they will not be targeted by stop and searches at higher rates than their white counterparts.

If a JHPD officer DOES respond to an issue outside of their area of jurisdiction, what is the procedure/punishment?

Many officers who wear body cams fail to turn them on during crucial encounters. What is the plan for ensuring that body cams are turned on?

There are a few things I think can be revised in this memorandum:

1. On page 3, it is written that " At the inception of the JHPD, it will adopt policies and practices appropriate for the University and broader Baltimore community that shall meet or exceed the principles reflected in BPD's polices that have been approved by the community...". I think many students have made it clear that if the JHPD were to be created, it should be a responsible force UNLIKE that of the BPD, thus all policies and practices by the JHPD should exceed those by the BPD. Additionally, it was heavily implied that the policies and training of the JHPD would be thought through thoroughly before instated, rather than copy-pasting policies from the BPD (which this and many other statements imply). If the JHPD is to set a good example, it should not simply be an extension of the BPD as much of this MOU seems to demonstrate.
2. On page 7 regarding police body cameras, it is stated that "...and will ensure that JHPD's program is compatible with BPD's program, including but not limited to protection of BPD personnel and operations." Footage from body cameras worn by JHPD should be used in full during investigations regarding BPD personnel if this is truly to be a community-oriented initiative rather than one that will continue to shield police officers when poor decisions are made.

I am a resident of Charles Village who lives right at the boundary of the proposed Homewood patrol area; I'm also a Hopkins faculty member. When we, as Baltimore residents, oppose the policies of the Baltimore Police Department, we do have the ultimate recourse of voting out the mayor who hired the police commissioner who put them into action. What recourse would we have should it turn out that we are strongly opposed to the practices of the JHUPD? We could complain to the Police Accountability Board, but their role is purely advisory, with no power to overrule the University administration: an unelected body. My twenty-five years at Hopkins make me increasingly unwilling to trust the Hopkins administration to listen even to their own students—74% of whom opposed the private police—or their own faculty members—whose representatives in the KSAS and School of Public Health senates passed resolutions opposing the private police.

The MOU stipulates that "a University police officer may exercise police powers within areas adjacent to the Campus Area . . . if: (1) the University receives a majority of support from the members of the relevant campus-adjacent communities for the police department to operate in their communities." How does the University propose to determine the level of support in the communities adjacent to the campus? Given the importance of the question, it is crucial that all members of the relevant communities be fully represented, ideally, in a well-publicized referendum. Nothing about the way that the University has handled their proposal so far—including this very series of town halls, poorly publicized outside of Hopkins and begun less than three days after the release of the MOU--gives me confidence that they are genuinely trying to hear the opinions of the people in the communities most affected

13 out of 15 members of the JHPD accountability board are appointed by the Hopkins Administration. Thus, the JHPD is only accountable to the university administration, not the Hopkins community or the surrounding communities. Why not make the members elected?

According to prominently displayed signage, Johns Hopkins Hospital does not permit guns on its grounds. How and why will JHPD be permitted to carry weapons when the hospital doesn't allow it? And why is the use of force not significantly addressed in the M.O.U.?

Not in the MOU but an important point for legitimacy: I think the JHUC should be responsible for nominating the faculty members who serve on the Accountability Board. If that doesn't work because the Nominating Committee of the JH Accountability Board makes the nominations, we could still have JHUC send a list to the Nominating Committee, or have a JHUC member serve as the faculty member on the Nominating Committee, or require JHUC endorsement as part of a nomination.

Can you elaborate on why it was decided to hold these "community" townhalls on Hopkins property as opposed to a more neutral community based space?

You provided two sources as to where the boundaries are. The first is the boundaries are defined by the map you distributed with a date of 8/4/22, entitled Johns Hopkins Police Department Jurisdiction, and / or by Senate bill 793, the text of which Johns Hopkins distributed on September 29, 2022 at the intended Town Hall Meeting. If there are other documents which form the basis for the boundary, please do share.

First, let me seek clarification as to how the law is interpreted. Subtitle 24-1201(c) (1) defines the term "Campus Area". There is I, II, and III. "I" states "owned, leased, operated by, or under the control of the University. "II" states "Located on" "the east Baltimore campus, meaning the area bounded by East Eager Street on the north, East Baltimore Street on the south, North Caroline Street on the west, and North Castle Street on the East, "III" used for educational or institutional purposes. Subtitle 24-1201(c) (2) extends the boundaries - "Campus Area" includes the public property that is immediately adjacent to the campus, including sidewalk, street, other thoroughfare and parking facility. The key question is whether to be within the JHPD jurisdiction, must the location satisfy all of the above, or any of the above. For example, if a property falls within the street boundaries but is not owned and operated by Hopkins, is it within the JHPD jurisdiction?

Secondly, if a property falls outside the street boundaries, but is owned and operated by Hopkins, is it within the JHPD jurisdiction? Second, let us move onto the map on the East Baltimore campus boundaries. One might infer that the map would clarify the boundaries of the jurisdiction. However the map dated August 4, 2022, only raises more questions. 800 block of N Washington Street, even side -- Is it the intent that JHPD would have jurisdiction over the backyard but not the homes themselves? In the 400 block of N Washington Street, understandably 415 N. Washington Street is a School of Public Health building and would be under JHPD jurisdiction. But across the street, in block 1666, 402 - 418 N Washington Street, across the street are not owned nor operated by Hopkins. And 403 to 419 N Chapel Street, nor the courtyard between the 400 block of Washington and Chapel, but these private homes are highlighted to be under JHPD jurisdiction.

Within this same square block area, block 1666, Hopkins owns and operates 1921 Jefferson Street, but it is not highlighted. On the 500 block of N Washington Street, the odd side, Johns Hopkins owns and operates 509-511 N. Washington Street. Does the jurisdiction encompass the entire block as the map indicates? On the 600 block of N. Castle Street, Hopkins owns both sides of the block with few exceptions. But this block is not highlighted to be within JHPD jurisdiction. 2024 McElderry Street is owned by Hopkins, but not highlighted green in the map. 503 N Chester Street is owned by Hopkins, but not highlighted green in the map. At the corner of Fayette and Broadway, there is an open parking lot, owned by Hopkins, but not marked green. There is a multi-level parking garage operated by Hopkins on Baltimore St, between Broadway and Dallas; it is not marked green. There is a multi-level parking garage, operated by Hopkins between Castle and Chester, Monument and Madison, not marked green.

What about the remote parking lot on Monument Street near Haven Street? Whose jurisdiction is that under? And the Broadway Services buildings across the street from this remote parking lot? Therefore, I am concerned about the accuracy of the map, and seeking clarification on how JHPD is reading the law as enacted by Senate bill 793.

I am deeply concerned that the boundary confusion would require clarification when a dire emergency is in progress, and both JHPD and BPD believe it is within the jurisdiction of the other. These issues must be clarified as forethought and not as afterthought.

Will the University control the recruitment, training and oversight of the JHPD?

Will the JHPD officers be armed? If so, with what items? How will they be trained on the use of force?

What types of background checks and mental health screening will JHPD hires be undergoing prior to employment?

What are hiring standards/requirements for the officers?

What are the less than lethal weapons? Will they carry tazers?

Johns Hopkins has three different campuses across the city. While it's clear that JHPD officers only have jurisdiction over the boundaries posted on your website. However, the MOU does not make it clear what jurisdiction JHPD will have when they are moving between these boundaries. For example, if a JHPD officer is traveling from Homewood to East Baltimore and sees a crime take place, are they able to respond?

How does electronic communications between JHPD and BPD happen? When I call "911" from on campus does that go to JHPD or BPD? Is there a link on your website that expounds on that?

Johns Hopkins is continually expanding its boundaries by purchasing new property, buildings, and land. As Hopkins property expands, how will you ensure that members of the community who may suddenly find themselves JHPD jurisdiction have their voices heard?

Vice President Bard confirmed this evening that JHPD will be armed. Johns Hopkins Hospital does not permit guns on its grounds. How and why will JHPD be permitted to carry weapons when the hospital doesn't allow it, and why is the use of force not significantly addressed in the MOU?

What is the structure of accountability of the actions of JHPD officers? Who do they answer to? How can a community member be sure there is transparency and accountability to even minor policing errors?

How will JHPD investigate actions of University representatives? Who will lead these internal investigations and how will conflicts of interest be disclosed and defined?

Currently, the MOU outlines a limited scope of JHPD, but the issue of internal accountability processes remains unclear. As written, the MOU seems to focus solely on individuals outside of the institution – the residents and patients that Hopkins was allegedly designed to serve – as perpetrators of crime. As such, we would request that the MOU include a more detailed outline of how internal investigations will be handled.

My suggestion I was going to make for training is that all officers be trained in basic ASL and be able to recognize that someone is signing to them, might be "ignoring" them due to not hearing them, etc. My day job requires our officers to know basic ASL and I think that really is essential. I think that should be addressed in the FAQs as well since police interactions are a big concern for the DHH community.

Have recommendations that have come in from those who oppose the JHPD that the public have they been included in the implementation planning or have they been enacted upon?

(3) General Feedback on the JHPD - Pro and Con

Much of the feedback received was focused on expressing support for or opposition to the JHPD. Below is a list of that general feedback, and while direct responses are not provided to individual questions, many answers can be found on the [Johns Hopkins Public Safety website](#) in some of the following resources:

- [JHPD Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [JH Accountability Board Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [JHPD Legal Framework and Commitments](#)
- [DRAFT MOU Overview Slide Deck](#)

General Feedback - Pro and Con

I am also an alumna. Kudos for moving ahead with a well trained police force. I am not sure our community understands that this force will replace the off duty Baltimore police officers Hopkins hires. With the problems in our Hopkins neighborhoods, we need our own police force to ensure the safety of the entire community.

Thank you for providing this MOU for review.

This is so important for the safety of the campus. I understand the concerns from others but this has reached a critical phase and this is something that needs to happen. the University has provided in writing a number of safeguards such that there is accountability. I am 100% supportive

I have worked at JHH and lived in the East Baltimore community for over 6 years. Our patients, families, neighbors and staff all deserve to feel safe coming to and from the hospital and our homes each day, This is a long overdue step and welcome addition to our security teams.

The proposed police department is vitally important to safety and well-being of our students, patients, faculty, and staff.

The JHPD should not exist. Period. Community, faculty, and student opposition is much too significant for the university to continue forward with this endeavor in good faith. This MOU is invalid and Hopkins must stop this and invest in building up communities rather than over policing them and tearing them apart.

Hello, I am a community member in the vicinity of the Homewood campus. I'm unsure if I'll be able to make it to any of the upcoming meetings about the MOU with BPD, but I want to make myself very clear that I do not approve of the Hopkins private police force, and the community members who live here also do not want a private police force. Please use that money to fund public education and give resources to the communities that Hopkins has historically displaced.

How does Hopkins reconcile the fact that research published by this university shows that police are harmful in urban areas and people of color with the development of the JHPD?

Glad to see Erricka Bridgeford is part of this process!

JH already has a large security force and employs armed, off-duty officers. How will having JHPD improve public safety when a large security presence already exists on Hopkins campuses and the surrounding areas?

When I talk to my students about it, some are opposed, but most are neutral or in favor

I am in complete support of this project and Johns Hopkins

The town hall was actually really bad. Private police will never equal public safety.

The creation of JHPD would be a threat to our community in Remington. No to private police.

I must again express my concern that the addition of a private security force will escalate tensions with local residents, increase violent encounters, and increase the liability of our institution to financial liabilities from these encounters. In concerted efforts to quantify the impact of local private security forces, evidence points to more violence towards black and brown populations, and an overall increase in financial exposure of the underlying institution, without significant impact on the overall security of their employees or the local non-violent population. Additionally, the research also suggests that de-escalation tactics are overlooked, and that the local private security forces are more violent and more confrontational than local police forces. Please reconsider your efforts, and rather than increasing an already highly policed area, consider increasing the local outreach to local populations and increasing the financial equity of local populations to increasing their involvement with the community at large.

I wish to register my opposition to the proposal to institute a JHU police force. My objections: (1) There is no demonstrated benefit to public safety for the campus. (2) There is a risk that students, faculty and staff of color will be harassed, and even harmed, while on campus, eradicating a fragile gains in diversity. (3) Areas of the city will be patrolled by a private police force over which they have no control. This is counter to the norms of democratic representation. (4) The JHU police will be very expensive; there has been no public accounting of the budgetary impact, at a time when the university is losing star faculty and students to chronic underinvestment in research and teaching infrastructure.

This is the wrong move for JHU on every level -- political, moral, practical, financial. I remain astonished that President Daniels and his leadership team would persist in courting such monumental risk to the university's future and to his legacy, for so little obvious benefit. Please reconsider. It is not too late.

I am happy with it, I think it would be nice having better trained officers that can properly handle situation. Two weeks ago a deranged man (50's) came into the M level library and was refusing to leave, saying he would kill the guards if they tried to move him and physically harm them etc. The guards got more guards, the guards got campus police.... the man, potentially having some psychiatric episode or affected by drugs, regardless could have been a threat to the community (Hopkins) as he was saying to shoot him and sitting next to students and walking around the tables. All the campus police and guards did was tell him to leave and to come outside. The guy was touching, and even tried to evade police officers by running away yet nothing was done. All the police needed to do to make the students safe was apprehend the man and physically escort him out but all the campus police and guards were too scared because he was making threats, rightfully so. To top this all of, there wasn't even a RAVE warning or anything about this..... so I feel like it needs to be considered that it might be better to have better trained and actual police officers

There are so many students and professors alike that are against the JHPD. Who are you actually benefiting by putting it into place?

Unarmed security versus armed police

From 2018 on, JHU leadership has made it clear that its main concern when planning its new armed police department is crime in areas adjacent to our campuses as students, staff, and/or patients move to and from campus to their apartments, garages or other means of transport, and for recreation and shopping, not crime on campus. Yet, as the MOU makes clear, JHU's armed police would focus primarily on campus. If the aim is to make the adjoining neighborhoods safer, why not simply rely on the visibility of a much better trained version of our unarmed, but already large security force, especially as it already patrols adjacent neighborhoods? We don't need a controversial, armed police with all its dangers, especially for black affiliates and residents, either on campus or off it.

The best thing you can do for the university is not create a private police force. Since the voices of students are very clearly being ignored, do not let the BPD train the Hopkins police if you do create a force. The idea of a private police force is dangerous for students of the global majority and students that represent marginalized groups.

Why isn't there more focus on the more marginalized voices? Those who are at greatest risk of harm if and when this force is established?

My name is [REDACTED], and I am a rather small freshman. I was reading the recent email from the Vice President for Public Safety, when an incident was mentioned where an affiliate was robbed at 11:10 am on the footbridge by San Martin Drive one Thursday morning. This was deeply unsettling for me as I walk along that path at around 10:55 every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning. Frankly, I got incredibly lucky as the chances were in favor of it happening on a day I normally walk that path. It is unfortunate that someone else was unlucky in my stead. It is chilling how close I was to being mugged - especially because I never felt in danger. I would see people jogging, walking dogs, etc. almost every day. I am glad this incident has been reported as now I know that path is not safe for me at the moment. I will have to take a longer route and arrive late to class until I feel safe taking that path again.

If you excuse my long-winded story, this is all to say I am a proponent of the JHPD. Once I feel safe again everywhere on campus with better equipped security who can prevent and deter crime, I will again be able to arrive to my class on time via the most serene walk on campus among the trees.

I live closest to the East Baltimore campus in Belair-Edison. My neighborhood is not directly impacted at this time, but as a resident of Baltimore city who is concerned about increased presence of police, Johns Hopkins' historical and on-going gentrification, and BPD's historical and on-going unconstitutional policing, I want to share my concerns and questions.

First, as local control of BPD is on the ballot, I would like to know how local control will impact this process. This agreement was made by the State and if BPD is no longer under the State's jurisdiction, it would seem that the legislation that created the private police force would no longer apply.

I am against this private police force and want to share my concerns and questions about the MOU.

I do not trust your commitment to "progressive, constitutional, community-oriented, and community-accountable policing" because no such thing exists. Such a group must necessarily abandon the core principles of policing itself to commit to those values, and in that case there is no longer a police department. Extending the role of police into our institution only weakens our internal community, weakens our bond with the external community, and threatens the health (both mental and physical) of both.

Over and over again your information emphasizes how the JHPD will be different from every other police department, and how they will be trained to not uphold the same systemic problems that every other police department upholds. If every piece of press about the JHPD seems to downplay their role of acting as police officers, what is the point of even having them?

What is the need of armed officers taking the roles of community safety officers, therapists, crisis response, EMTs, and on and on? In downplaying the policing role of the JHPD and amplifying every other role that you think they must fill, you only make it clear that you do actually understand that their function is to police, and that you understand that more policing is not actually what this community wants or needs.

Do not lie to the students about why this police department exists, and what it will do for us. No number of diversity trainings can make the police into an organization that fosters a safe environment on campus

I believe that Johns Hopkins should reallocate the wealth and resources being used for the new police development towards supporting the areas that seem to need more policing. If JHU is looking to provide a safer environment for students outside of campus, countless studies show that supporting the areas and communities in question is a more effective and lasting solution than increased policing. If JHU funded preexisting community benefit organizations and provided mental health, traffic, and investigation services, the overall safety of the area would be vastly increased.

My home is located in the jurisdiction footprint for the proposed JHU police and I'm writing in opposition of this police force. Many of my neighbors and I agree that a private police force will only make police-related issues worse. Accountability is a huge concern. What are the plans for accountability if a member of the JHU police force violates any of the policies you are referencing, especially related to excessive force? Also following up on dr. bard's comments- there are mixed messages being presented about "private" police force privileges- earlier in the presentation, it was reported the JHU police would have the same rights as BPD, and dr. bard just said "private" means those privileges are different. Which is it? Lastly- can you publish data that shows community support of this initiative? It's been mentioned regularly that "widespread support" but no backing data has ever been provided.

How can Johns Hopkins, a leader in the field of public health, which has clearly shown that police are detrimental to community health, justify forming a private police force? Who will this police force be accountable to and who will do internal investigations?

Are you all really going to classify this online livestream with no place for comments as a "town hall"? What about all the individuals without access to or literacy with computers and their opinions? How is this even legally going to fit the definition of a "town hall"? Seems like you all will have to reschedule this to be another in person town hall. Hopefully there won't be another "unforeseen interruption" at that one.

I have never felt safe in the presence of a police officer. Police do not serve, they dominate. It is a position of power over others. It is not a comfort to be lorded over under the guise of my own safety, that this is for my own good. Policing means control. Prevent crime at the source, not in the aftermath. This is a band aid on a bullet wound. Prevent crime before it happens by elevating the community, not placing dogs in the pen to keep the sheep in line. There is no comfort in a police state. There is no comfort on a policed campus.

I was disappointed that I did not get a chance to express my support for the JHPD this evening. I live two blocks from the Homewood campus and do not feel safe at times in my neighborhood. After reviewing the crime data for the neighborhoods surrounding the Homewood campus, I believe there is a strong need for a well-trained and properly supervised Johns Hopkins Police Department.

WHAT WILL YOU SAY WHEN THE FIRST PERSON IS KILLED BY JHPD. No private police.

As a student and community member, I would like to express my opposition to the formation of JHU police department. We have ample evidence in Baltimore and beyond that law enforcement does not lead to increased safety or less crime and instead harms the accused and communities more broadly.

The JHPD has never, and will never, represent public safety in the Hopkins vicinity. The way that the organizers of this private police force have sought to flout the significant and sustained opposition of students, graduates, faculty, employees, and the wider Baltimore community shows that they are not serious about upholding any of their promises. This is not a town hall.

This is disgusting, insulting, and shameful. Hopkins doesn't need its own little army, and Baltimore doesn't need more unaccountable thugs on the streets when we can't even make BCPD act ethically or responsibly. Cut this shit out.

Despite the fact that I'm obviously filling out this form, I don't get the sense that you really want our feedback. If the university actually listened to the many voices in its community, they would know that a new police department is something almost no one here wants. More police will do very little Hopkins administrators insist that its police force will be "racially just" though I have seen few details on concrete ways that would be accomplished. Further, I have seen few details about what the Hopkins police would actually do to prevent crime. For instance, the most serious crime happening here at Homewood is rape, something that happens mostly in private; how would more police officers do anything to prevent or deter these crimes?

The fact is Hopkins is less an academic institution than a real estate enterprise with academics attached, and the proposed police force has nothing to do with promoting public safety (if it did, it would have more support from the JHSPH community) and everything to do with protecting property values. The problem for Hopkins isn't Baltimore's devastated social safety programs, the poor quality of public education, or even the record levels of violent crime. Hopkins' main problem is that the crime is taking place partly in its territory, which scares off potential students, faculty, and visitors, and the administrators foolishly believe they can move the crime to other non-Hopkins affiliated areas by adding police to their own.

This will only work in the short term, if at all. More importantly, what Hopkins is communicating to everyone in the surrounding communities is, "We can't have this crime on our campus, so you take it." So you have a huge institution in a mostly black city that's doing very little to actually help eradicate any of the social problems that lead to crime (problems it exacerbates with gentrification) and instead is just hiring police to keep crime off campus. Not only will this not solve the crime problem, but it will make the lives of black families in the areas (many of whom have been these neighborhoods before Hopkins) materially worse. (A study in JAMA by Hopkins researchers concludes, "Police exposure should be considered a critical determinant of health." <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamapediatrics/article-abstract/2783637>)

The history of policing in the US and abroad (which, mind you, in its modern form is only a few centuries old) should tell you that more police is not the answer. But forget history: listen to the many students, faculty, staff, and alumni who have not been shy in their absolute rejection of this proposal, which despite having been in the works for years, I have not met a single person in its favor. If Hopkins goes through with this, along with the aforementioned issues, it tells everyone in the community who has been vocal in their opposition to this that their opinions do not matter, that high level administrators know better than everyone else (even people whose job it is to study this stuff and say more police is a bad idea), and that Hopkins will do whatever it takes to protect its financial interests, regardless of how unpopular these measures are.

In short: do not do this. It's a huge waste of money, it's morally wrong, and no one who actually has to work at these campuses wants it.

Can you comment on your decision to support two officers that arrested a Harvard black student in 2018 and how you will address similar situations with the creations of a private Hopkins Police Force?

I am deeply ashamed of Johns Hopkins. As a community member who owns a home of 28th Street, I will feel less safe as my neighborhood is more policed. Black and brown bodies are under attack at every juncture that police are involved. Anyone who was part of this decision should question why they have the right to make a decision that puts people in harms way. How did they listen to the protests in 2020? In Baltimore City of all places, the communities have implored the local government and universities for less policing. I am less safe when more police are around and I deserve to feel safe in my home.

This is absolutely insane. There is no justification for JH to have their own police department. Having the community watchers on every other block works just fine. Added police presence in a quiet neighborhood simply makes me feel uncomfortable. I believe this will do more harm than good. Hopkins students in the neighborhood are annoying enough without unnecessary harassment from police added to that.

What will you say then? Will we still be talking about public safety? What's going to be the defense of more murderers? When you're hiring killer cops off BPD? what then?

I have fully read the draft memorandum of understanding, and I am very concerned. The idea that JHPD will “serve as the first responder to all routine calls for service” and “all non-emergency calls for service” according to this document does not make me feel safe, as a student at Homewood. It undermines the claim that Hopkins has a “holistic” approach to public safety. How can the university claim to invest in mental health and community safety when a bolstered police presence on campus causes stress, unease, and trauma for any number of students, faculty, and visitors on campus, especially marginalized groups? The first response should never be a police force, especially in the cases of routine and non-emergency services. We do not need police to take care of our day to day problems on campus— and in cases of harm, we can invest in nonviolent, non punitive solutions that center restorative justice. Police presence heightens tensions and makes people not want to call for help in the first place.

Besides, BPD still has the potential to be heavily involved in incidents on campus, from what I see in this document, from prison facilities and processing to handling sex offenses. This means that BPD still has the power to cause harm to students, both victims or perpetrators of crime, because the city’s punitive legal system takes precedence over restorative justice and community safety. If we fully transitioned to JHPD, students would still be wary, but this just means there will be two police forces we need to be aware and cautious of.

Johns Hopkins University welcomes students from all over the United States, and the world. We all have had wildly different experiences with policing. The University Must recognize that some students have grown up surrounded by systemic racism in Baltimore, and for that reason distrust the concept of JHPD, while others have faced dangers from police forces in other states/cities and because of those experiences are automatically wary of ALL forms of police, especially in a new city where they don’t know how much they can trust the local government. To show that our community can trust each other, I recommend that Johns Hopkins University reduce the scale, authority, and funding for JHPD with the end goal of doing away with policing entirely and replacing it with a new, truly holistic system that can be judged on its own merit for the services it provides, not the fear it instills.

No Hopkins police. Shut it down

Some town hall this is. I live in Charles village and I oppose JHU private police. Acab acab acab acab

There is no version of an MOU that will be acceptable. We do not want this to happen.

Instead of spending money on private police, please give money to historically disenfranchised folks in Baltimore

As an Alumnus of the Johns Hopkins’ Whiting School of Engineering and a community member in Baltimore City, I want to express my firm opposition to the establishment of the Johns Hopkins Police Department, or any private police organization. Police must be accountable to all the people they have jurisdiction over, which is not possible when they answer to a private organization instead of elected officials. Students, alumni, faculty, and community members have made it ABUNDANTLY clear over the past three years that this is an unacceptable initiative

100% agree with the JHPD. Enough is enough. Submitting this anonymously due to the abuse I would receive if I spoke out publicly. I am tired of being harassed around the Eastern campus, racially abused, and being generally fearful of walking to buy food or visit the adjoining buildings by walking outside. If nothing is done, I would consider leaving Hopkins.

I think it is a great idea. Students should not be viewed as prey.

I am a community member living on the 2800 block of Calvert street. I do not want armed private police patrolling my neighborhood. It will not make us safer.

JHPD WILL CAUSE MULTIPLE DEATHS IN THE CITY OF BALTIMORE. BLOOD WILL BE ON THE HANDS OF JOHN HOPKINS UNIVERSITY FOREVER

We would like a response to the 6000 person signature in 2020, demanding the cancellation of JHPD.

JHU students and community members have been protesting the implementation of a JHU private police at every opportunity. From a university that prides itself on its focus on democracy, this is a flagrant instance of hypocrisy. If you put this issue to a well-publicized vote for the entire Hopkins community and affected Baltimore area to take, then we would respect the outcome.

Please respect the voice of your students and choose not to implement a private police force at Hopkins. There is no need for it and it is actively harmful to the city we are allowed to stay in.

The community of Baltimore, the faculty, students and staff of JHU have all made it clear that the JHPD will only make JHU a more oppressive, unsafe place. Private police departments have already killed people in multiple instances, including those you are using as a model. What will you do when the JHPD does so?

JHPD is not wanted by students or citizens of Baltimore. End JHPD.

I'm curious on how you think this is helping safety? these cops are only here to protect your property and will end up causing irreparable damage to Baltimore communities throughout ALL your campuses

How do you respond to the fact that if JHPD is formed, thousands of people living in Baltimore city will now have their lives in danger living constantly with the thread of dying at the hands of JHPD?

Abolish the JHPD.

Glad that this plan is moving forward--I've attended two Ivy universities and lived in Baltimore for decades, and all of the colleges that I've attended or been affiliated with professionally in comparable cities have their own security and police forces. It's a routine part of campus life and, to my knowledge, has caused no problems in terms of coercion or police "brutality." I'm not sure why it's taken this long to move forward with such a sensible plan and I have confidence that this will enhance life for the community at large and students. Seems like you've built in some good protections in terms of regulation and expectations of comportment and conduct. THANK YOU.

Hello I live in the Abell neighborhood of Baltimore and am deeply concerned about expanded armed police presence in our area. In the MOU there is very vague language on the JHPD's authority restrictions. For example "JHPD shall be responsible for its own policies, protocols, and funding for prisoner transport for those individuals who JHPD officers have arrested." This and all agreements with a privately administered police force are unacceptable! I and other neighbors are vehemently opposed to the creation of the JHPD.

As a community member (Charles Village), I did not consent to a private police force. Especially not an armed private police force. And especially not an armed private police force that collaborates with another police force that harbors liars and murderers.

I strongly oppose this violent imposition of force on myself and my neighbors.

As an alum, I pledge to withhold all donation to the university while it continues to engage in this antidemocratic conduct.

From the very start in 2018, the legislative process has been dogged with mishaps and malfeasance from the very beginning with shoddy policing research and JHU lobbyists. It makes me disappointed in my alma mater for it to reject the values it professes to uphold.

QUE VAS A HACER CUANDO LA PRIMER PERSONA HABRÁ MATADO POR JHPD

What will you say when the first person is killed by JHPD? I am trying to tune into the livestream, but the audio is static. When will I have a chance to voice my concerns?

STOP JHU POLICE I AM AN ABELL COMMUNITY MEMBER AND I OPPOSE A PRIVATE POLICE [REDACTED]

NO HOPKINS PRIVATE POLICE

Town Hall Sucks This is dissent. That wasn't a town hall.

No Private Police The JHUPD poses a grave threat to all JHU students and Baltimore residents, especially Black students and residents. The community has overwhelmingly voiced opposition since 2018 and you have not listened!!!

As a community member and student, I strongly oppose the formation of a police department at Johns Hopkins. We have ample evidence (particularly in Baltimore) that indicates that involvement with armed law enforcement and the carceral system are harmful to th a

No JHU private police!!!!

You're all cowards. You thought this farcical town hall was a clever way to pretend that your widely reviled PRIVATE POLICE FORCE wasn't already a foregone conclusion. That's pathetic. Everyone responsible for these bullshit theatrics *will* get what is coming to them.

NO POLICE ON JOHNS HOPKINS CAMPUS OR ANYWHERE YOU DUMB DUMBS POLICE KILL PEOPLE
KILLING PEOPLE IS BAD YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT

NO POLICE EVER! POLICE DO NOT MAKE US SAFE. THEY ACTIVELY CAUSE HARM.

NO JHPD EVER!

If JHPD happens, I will quit working at JHU and would ensure that multiple colleagues also quit working at JHU in solidarity with the hundreds of people who would lose their lives at the hands of JHPD if it were to happen.

As a student i would immediately transfer out of John Hopkins University for the sake of my own life and safety of JHPD happened. I would make sure that anyone I know who is considering applying to JHU never apply due to the risk of losing their life at the hands of JHPD

Don't proceed with MOU. I will no longer donate to my alma mater if a JHPD is established. Listen to the community

I feel unsafe with the idea of JHPD being in the city. I would feel in danger if JHPD happened. I would fear my life if JHPD happened.

Thousands of students, faculty, community members, and alumni have been saying for four years that we simply do not want a private police force at JHU. Hopkins has refused to listen. Hopkins is wealthy and powerful. It could work with community groups and city officials to try to address root causes of violence in Baltimore. Instead, it uses its wealth and power to silence the voices of its own students and staff and railroad over its neighbors in Baltimore to create its own police force that will create more — not less — violence for poor people and Black people in Baltimore.

Speaking as someone who works adjacent to the university: your private police will be an active threat to both the community that I work with and to Baltimore as a whole.

You all are a plantation university that owes Baltimore innumerable reparations, and yet you respond with violence.

disgusting.

I don't want your mercs in my neighborhood.

This was not a town hall. You can't just show a prerecorded video with no space for questions or comments, and call it a community discussion. This should bit count as any kind of community engagement and should not be enough to satisfy the rules for the MOU.

I have been a city resident and a resident of the Abell/Charles Village community near the JHU campus for the past 22 years. I'm also an alumni of the Johns Hopkins Carey Business School. I fully support Johns Hopkins' proposal to create a new university police department, and the draft memorandum of understanding seems reasonable, in my opinion.

The level of crime in Baltimore City is unacceptable and detrimental to the city's image and growth potential, and the Baltimore police department appears overwhelmed by the scale of the problem. While a university police department won't solve these problems, it certainly could help, particularly if it is accountable, inclusive, and transparent, as advertised. It should be able to relieve the strain on the city police department's resources and allow for faster response times for incidents that occur on or near university property. I actually wish the patrol boundaries extended further beyond the various campuses than they are outlined in the MOU. Other public and private educational institutions possess their own police forces, and I see no reason why Johns Hopkins should be treated differently.

I sincerely hope that a few loud, disgruntled, anti-law-and-order voices don't derail a development that should be positive for JHU as well as the surrounding communities.

Hopkins could do 100% more for the community by putting the budget for a private police force into restoring properties it owns and leaves derelict instead. The scope of this private police force better be limited, and diversity training is absolutely necessary.

Seems like an excellent plan.

Shame on Hopkins for moving forward with a campus police force after seeing what BPD did in 2015 and then again in 2020, with countless incidents of brutality in between and after. My education at Hopkins is a major factor in why I do not support this. End it now.

Stop the private police force. Where does it end, if Hopkins goes forward with this, will other corporations in the future be able to kill in defense of their capital? What will this mean for our future?

Police are not the answer. Police are never the answer. Nobody deserves to be killed by a cop and when it happens at the hands of JHU it will be a shameful but predictable event. Stop this profoundly violent and unpopular decision before that happens.

No private police!

- A concerned Baltimore resident and JHU alum (PhD, 2020)

They do not protect anyone but each other. They do not make any campus safer.

Dear Hopkins Staff/Admin/Community,

I support the students and residents of Baltimore who have clearly said that more police is not the answer to community safety. I object to this initiative with the strongest of terms and don't believe it will make students, faculty, or Baltimore city residents any safer to harm. We are living in unprecedented times, with an ongoing pandemic and rise in inflation, rent, and cost of living, if we can remedy these and support our community materially, only then can we can make it safer for everyone.

This is a step in the right direction to ensure the safety and security of our patients, staff and the community surrounding the hospital. I have worked on the East Baltimore campus for more then 20 years and want to continue to work here, despite my family wanting me to transfer outside of the city. Bravo JHU for doing the right thing and providing the protection we all so desperately want and need.

I have no confidence in JHU to create an non-racist police force and I do not wish to see armed police in my neighborhood harassing my neighbors.

Thanks for putting together this MOU. My feedback is that we do not need an armed, private police force on the Homewood campus. Instead, we need the following to achieve our shared goals of reduced crime around us:

- better lighting
- more frequent shuttles
- more university-sponsored rideshares
- classes on street smarts for students/faculty/community members who are experiencing city life for the first time
- buddy system for existing campus security to patrol in pairs if needed

I am sharing the following articles detailing the source of my information:

- <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/11/08/us/police-crime.html>
- <https://prismreports.org/2022/02/23/police-dont-stop-crime-but-you-wouldnt-know-it-from-the-news/>
- https://www.wbalv.com/article/johns-hopkins-police-first-town-hall-meeting-protest/41342346?utm_campaign=snd-autopilot
- <https://www.baltimoresun.com/education/bs-md-johns-hopkins-police-department-opposition-preview-20220921-e6znlx5azfbprhmnsvpux4z7ie-story.html>
- <https://www.jhunewsletter.com/article/2022/09/first-jhpd-town-hall-moved-to-virtual-format-after-disruption-by-protestors>

I also request that the university does more than simply "consider" my feedback, with no follow-up action based on it or in reference to it.

I don't understand how the formation of a Johns Hopkins police force is evidence-based. It seems very reactive rather proactive without affecting the root cause of crime in our area. I would rather see resources distributed directly to the community.

Seriously.

I find it disgusting that the University is choosing to prioritize the views of its administrators over its key constituents -- its students and the community -- as well as its faculty.

I find it disgusting that the University is basing its decision on "safety" on the Hopkins campus when violent or dangerous crime quite literally does not occur there.

I find it disgusting that the University thinks there is any legitimacy in a private police force. It is highly laughable to point to Hopkins' "peer" institutions throughout the city and county when all of the schools that have such departments are public institutions. Those forces remain answerable to the state. A private police force at a private institution, on the other hand, does not.

The University will never see a dollar from me. The administration's continuing allegiance to a narrow-minded decision with highly foreseeable consequences -- death -- despite the significant pushback from literally all sides is not something that inspires an alumnus like me to invest in the University.

When the University's reputation suffers because students are too scared to enroll here due to fear of an unaccountable police force, I will laugh because those consequences could have been avoided if the University would just listen to the insanely smart students and faculty it has attracted. But I'll also feel extremely uncomfortable, because I know that violence, death, and other devastating consequences will inevitably result from this decision.

I implore you to change your minds, reverse course, and not implement the JHPD.

Sincerely, with extreme sadness and disappointment,

I am entirely in favor of the creation of a police force for the university. Every other university in Baltimore City, and most other college campuses around the country have a police force, so the JHPD only puts us on par with other institutions in terms of safety.

When I was attending Johns Hopkins, the 7-eleven just a few minutes from campus, and less than a block from where I lived was robbed multiple times and I had to walk past there every day on my way to and from campus. There would often be one of the campus security guards nearby, but in the event of an armed robbery, there is absolutely nothing those unarmed campus guards can do, and everybody knows it, which is why that particular 7-eleven became the target of multiple armed robberies.

My only concern is regarding the recruitment of candidates. The Baltimore City Police Department is hundreds of officers short and struggles to keep up with the rampant crime throughout the city. I would be concerned that the university will be forced to lower their standards in order to attract candidates, resulting in an incompetent police force for the university.

We think the JH police force is a good idea. We see it as adding to the present protection given by the Baltimore force, and don't see a downside. We don't understand the arguments of the protesters.

[REDACTED]

I live close to Homewood. I fully support JHU having a police force. It will help to keep our area safe.

why u so undemocratic. no jhpd we will keep protesting to stop you killers

What will you say when the first person is killed by JHPD?!?!?

I definitely support Johns Hopkins in their endeavor to provide a private police department to support safety on the campus and the surrounding community.

I am against the creation of the JHPD. This is an unnecessary initiative that places the health and safety of our community members and neighbors at risk. I am a lifelong Baltimorean and have never felt unsafe on any of the Hopkins Campuses. The creation of a private police force does not make me feel safer and instead puts community members at risk for conflict and harm with armed officers. From the national conversations about policing, we know that more armed police is not the solution to crime and I don't think JHU should be a part of increasing the number of police on the streets.

I am a civil rights lawyer. Giving Hopkins its own police force would combine two of the most historically oppressive forces in this city. This is a dangerous and retrograde idea.

I am a recent grad of Hopkins and remember when conversation first began about a private police force. The vast majority of students (75%) opposed this force, so the university postponed further discussion until this year. Now conversation has began again and it seems very apparent that the university is no longer asking community members, students, faculty, and all those who would be affected by the police force whether they want this force or not, bur rather feedback on its operations and guidelines. Why do we not get any say on whether this private force will exist?

I had hoped that the revised protocol for this session would facilitate a community dialogue on this important issue - that there could be listening and learning. I arrived shortly after 7:00 to find that the protesters had again taken over the stage. I understand the complexity of allowing peaceful protest and the negative optics of interfering but I am frustrated that community questions and reflection were again drowned out. A loss for all, from my perspective.

Dear Dr. Bard:

This question pertains to the current timeline for implementation of the JHPD as posted on the Public Safety website.

One argument against the JHPD as proposed, with all its safeguards against the abuses attached to the very concept of policing, is that it is completely new and has not proven itself. The administration boldly embraces the challenge but is unrealistic about its delivery.

10 months do not do justice to the enormity of the task of creating 'good policing' in the context of our current times. I would refer you to the presentation by Dr. Vesla Weaver during the 2nd session of 'The Challenges of 21st Century' discussion series (<https://publicsafety.jhu.edu/community-safety/jhpd/legislative-archive/events-livestreams/>)

If the administration is sincere in its wish to invent a new type of police department, it should have the humility to measure the obstacles that will take a long time to overcome. You have been more careful and persistent in declaring that you will not move fast, but right. But a new model of police officers cannot be created in less than a year.

Meanwhile, to reduce the mistrust of most towards the administration, I invite you to take seriously the concerns of the community about our current security officers: when some of them propagate racist and violent-inducing views (and fears of civil war conspiracies against BLM) on social media without any consequences, it completely undermines any confidence the community should have in Hopkins' ability to choose and train a new progressive type of officers.

Until the cases reported to the Office of Institutional Equity are dealt with the seriousness they deserve, the public cannot trust JHU for actually delivering the type of new police department it proposes on its website.

As a Baltimore City resident and staff member, I support in principle the concept of a JHU police force. The argument that I would put forward is that in an era when police reform is sorely needed, a new and relatively small force might be a vehicle to pilot new and more humane/effective policing techniques. And I would also hope that the majority of JHU safety personnel will be unarmed 'eyes on the ground' with an observation and mediation skill set, and a small proportion of the force will be focused on criminal apprehension and armed/trained for response to violence. I believe that this force could be a better use of JHU money, as far as policing quality for the dollar, than hiring moonlighting cops or private security (i.e. the de facto current force). And it may allow BCP to use some patrol resources elsewhere.

I would say that the biggest concern, as a citizen, would be that JHU affiliates, perhaps even a subset of affiliates who are well-connected, may receive preferential treatment compared to neighbors. This should not be a force that shields our students or faculty or alumni from accountability for crimes that they commit on campus or within the community, that just can't be allowed to happen if this goes forward.

I frequently walk in both the East Balto and Homewood communities.

What will you do when someone is killed by the JHUPD?

The following statement is feedback to include in the MOU. The question for tonight's forum is: can you please respond to the following statement and if you will change your ways and respect the will of Baltimore City voters?

Baltimore residents, including JHU affiliates, are calling on Commissioner Harrison to immediately cease Baltimore City Police Department negotiations with Johns Hopkins University regarding the proposed Johns Hopkins Police Department. We request that you turn this controversial issue over to the citizens of Baltimore, who are voting right now on Question H to assume Local Control of Baltimore Police.

Multiple forms of feedback and testimony to MDGA have shown jhpd is unfavorable. The legislation does not mandate jhu create a police force

Please give your response in the question and answer of today's forum, thank you

This first comment of mine (I'll send separate messages for each topic) concerns the format of the town hall that your office prepared.

If it had not been disrupted by protestors (and the breakout discussions replaced by direct questions online), I do not know how much time would have been devoted to listening to public comments: the program for the town hall included prerecorded presentations that could have been posted on the website in advance and group discussions that would only bring their feedback at the very end of the two-hour meeting.

Considering that we have entered the 30-day comment period after the release of the MOU draft, the choice of this format for a public meeting seems to go against the spirit of what a public comment period is. Last night would have been highly controlled by the administration and leaving little time for direct, diverse, and deeply engaged feedback.

My suggestion is that the next town halls devote most of the time listening to questions and comments, and allow for a back-and-forth between the question and the answer: the issue is about ambiguities that need to be lifted and this takes time.

Hearing exactly the same words used in a reply as they are already written on the website does not answer a question: we need to have time to explain why it doesn't make sense as we are trying to expose the grey areas, the ambiguous wording, the exceptions carved out without any further detail.

Regarding the identification and personal search requirements for attending your East Baltimore "Town Hall" on public safety advertised at: <https://publicsafety.jhu.edu/>

Requiring registration, state ID, and a search by security personnel of personal belongings for people attending your "forum" on public safety is a barrier to people attending. And it differentially discriminates against people who have certain histories with surveillance and security and its consequences, specifically limiting the perspectives you will hear from at your "public safety forum". Not to mention those who don't have state ID.

Requiring submission to this kind of surveillance in order to attend your "public forum" honestly shows that your institution is not to be trusted when you say that this policing effort will be different and more community-friendly than most policing, when you resort to punitive law enforcement surveillance methodology even in who is welcome at your so-called "Town Hall". You are showing your true colors and lack of trustworthiness very quickly. If you want to earn the community's trust, this is not the way. Is this how the community should expect to be treated by your police, as suspects subject to ID checks and searches?

- A Hopkins neighbor

Studies by JHU show that police presence in schools is linked with lower test performance. How will JHPD be different?

As a matter of public record, Johns Hopkins University, the city of Baltimore, the state of Maryland, and a Baltimore City deputy sheriff have been sued for the alleged assault of a transgender man in August 2019. This was 18 months after JHU announced its plans for a progressive police force. Why should members of the Hopkins and Baltimore communities expect that the JHPD – and some of its officers who are or have been BPD-affiliated – would begin policing nonviolently when the JHPD is on the ground?

Has Johns Hopkins reached out to Tawanda Jones for input regarding the JHPD in general and the M.O.U. specifically? Ms. Jones's brother, Tyrone West, was killed by Morgan State Police and Baltimore Police in July of 2013. For nearly a decade, she has been a committed advocate for victims of police brutality around the country. There are few people in Baltimore or otherwise who are more deeply acquainted with the consequences of police violence, and with those who have been affected by it, than Ms. Jones. I cannot think of anyone whose voice would be more important to any conversation about an armed private police force.

Dear moderators of the town halls about the establishment of a JHPD,

I would like to submit the following three questions to Vice President Bard and other Administration representatives on the panel:

1. Vice President Bard: You want Hopkins police to be armed with lethal weapons, including firearms. You say this is nothing new, that all universities in Baltimore have armed police forces. But that's not true. The public universities have units of the Maryland State Police. But that's different. You're talking about a private institution deploying a private armed police force. Loyola and Notre Dame have their own security departments, but they are not armed. They are not armed precisely because as a private security force they do not have a right to kill people in the name of the law. A private armed Hopkins police force with the right to kill would be unprecedented. Why do you think it should have this unique right?
2. You say the jurisdiction of a private Hopkins police department would not extend beyond Hopkins campuses. But President Daniels has always wanted Hopkins police to also patrol the neighborhoods around the university's campuses and that's clearly still his eventual goal. The Administration pushed hard for Hopkins police to have what they called "concurrent jurisdiction" in neighborhoods adjacent to Hopkins, and it looks like the draft Memorandum of Understanding is actually intended to allow for the extension of Hopkins police powers well beyond campus boundaries. First, it gives Hopkins police the right to obtain arrest warrants and arrest people not only on Hopkins property, but also throughout the city, and even beyond the city limits. Not only that, but over and over again, the MoU refers to Hopkins police exercising police powers "within the Campus Area and area of Concurrent Jurisdiction." The Campus Area is defined as Hopkins property and adjacent streets. In this context, "area of concurrent jurisdiction" clearly means the adjacent neighborhoods beyond the Campus Area. So, in this context, that "and" is a powerful word. What is it doing in the MoU? If the MoU is actually intended to restrict Hopkins police to Campus Areas, why don't you take out the language about arresting people well beyond campus boundaries and all references to areas of concurrent jurisdiction beyond the Campus Areas?
3. You say you're holding this town hall to get feedback about your proposal to create a private Hopkins police force. But are you actually listening? Over the last several years, Hopkins students and faculty have expressed overwhelming opposition to the creation of a private Hopkins police force. Over and over again. Over six thousand individuals and scores of university and community organizations signed a petition in 2020. The Student Government Association, the Graduate Representative Organization, the Faculty Senate, and the Faculty Assembly have all passed resolutions opposing the creation of a private Hopkins police force. But you don't listen. Moreover, there has been virtually no public support for such a police force. When will you stop pretending to listen and actually listen to the students and faculty at this university and the people in the communities around Hopkins?

Writing in support of the proposed police department. I am a faculty member at the The East Baltimore Campus, and I do NOT feel safe on that campus, even during daylight hours. There are regular reports of armed robberies, shootings, etc on and around campus. I do not like coming to work and worrying about being shot or mugged. I don't feel safe walking across the campus to run an errand or get coffee or lunch, because I am afraid of being shot or mugged. I worry about being carjacked. I have considered leaving Hopkins to find a faculty position elsewhere because I simply do not feel safe on the East Baltimore campus. I hope that increased police presence there would decrease the amount of crimes that occur and increase a feeling of safety among faculty, students, and most importantly patients who are seeking care there!

As an alumnus of JHU graduate program and resident of the neighborhood surrounding, I am ashamed and angered that you are moving forward with plans to create a private police after having been repeatedly asked to desist by the surrounding communities. From living here for decades, we know that police reform, including body cams, does not prevent harm caused by police to communities (substantiated by countless examples documented by the New York Times, Washington Post among other mainstream news sources). By placing more police on our streets you will be endangering many of us, particularly our Black, Brown, and poor neighbors whom we want to be safe. This denial of repeated requests shows us once again that JHU abuses the city which hosts it, and continuing this attempt will be continued to be met with strong protests.

It is a true shame that JHU is not pouring its countless resources into real change to make its students, staff, and communities safer, such as mental health care, general health care, food security, and housing security. I'm sure you all know this is a more effective option, as well as a possibility to make more money through nationally-recognized and groundbreaking actions, yet instead you are taking a cowardly and intentionally harmful path forward.

WE DO NOT CONSENT TO JHPD

This is a horrible disservice to the city of Baltimore, dealing with increased homicides, consent decree, GTTF, and understaffing. JHU should have no jurisdiction over Baltimore citizens. Protesters will prevail on this issue. Students are opposed.

Dr. Bard, you are doing a fantastic job. Please know you have many supporters in Baltimore City. We support the JHPD.

For an issue of this importance, why is President Daniels not here tonight?

It's still not clear WHY Johns Hopkins needs an ARMED police force. What benefits will this police force provide to Hopkins that are not already provided by the existing security personnel and the small number of armed officers that already exist on campus?

Until you can adequately explain WHY this police force is needed, I will remain **STRONGLY OPPOSED** to the formation of JHPD in any form

I have been a JHU employee for 33 years and I am fully in favor of the implementation of the JHPD. I commend the thoughtful and mindful approach that you are taking throughout this process and in gathering feedback from the community. I trust that you will continue with this diligent approach as you continue the implementation of the JHPD.

Also; thank you for having this Q&A.

The establishment of JHPD was put on pause for the past two years, in large part due to the protests after George Floyd's murder. What changed in the past two years that has prompted the university to move forward?

As a democratic society, we have agreed that the state should have a monopoly on violence. How will a waiver on this rule and the provision of weapons to a private institution with a long history of violence against its neighbors, for example experimenting on black community members without their consent, make for a safer environment for anyone?

Without JHPD, Baltimore police will police the area in any way they want. So isn't having JHPD a win for the community?

Hello,

Since this is the only way to provide feedback about the JHPD MOU, I am sending this email which I doubt anyone will read. It is shameful that you've canceled your public meetings; this only confirms the protesters' argument that Hopkins has not been listening to the public throughout this process, and will not change its course of action based on public feedback. I oppose a private police force at Hopkins because the institution is privatizing the city's shared public spaces under the false promise of increased security for the lucky few who fall under its protection. This is an anti-democratic, divide-and-conquer strategy.

I've lived in Remington for thirteen years and I own my home here. It's what people call a safe neighborhood, but I travel throughout the city and have experienced a few assaults over the years. It's clear that more policing has not made me any safer and there's no upper limit to how much money we'll pour into this failing strategy. So if the JHPD promise is more policing and privately financed policing, we already know it will not prevent crime. If the promise is more efficient, accountable, and humane public safety, then why should only my neighborhood and a few others adjacent to Hopkins receive that benefit? If there's a better way to do public safety, everyone has a right to that. We can't allow private institutions to create islands of exclusive privilege.

I see how Hopkins has exploited residents' fear to convince some in adjacent neighborhoods that they can trust Hopkins more than they can trust local government. It's the classic argument for privatization, that the public sector is inefficient and private industry does it better -- but we know that privatization is predatory, it guts our public spaces and destroys the infrastructure of our communities. Given that Hopkins is building a new institute devoted to saving global democracy, they should be willing to participate in the democratic process like everyone else. That means agreeing to be governed by the will of the people when they operate in our public space. And it means paying their dues to support the shared infrastructure we all use, from roads to water to social services. We need more, not less, public power over resources; meeting people's basic needs is ultimately the only way to prevent crime. We don't need the paternalism of "Hopkins will fix it." Fix it for who? Privatization is extraction, and serves the institution's bottom line.

Hopkins can use its political power to participate with the rest of us in transforming BPD and demanding a new form of public safety that abandons the ineffective hyper-policing of the past.

[REDACTED]

I understand the need for this police force. Though the 75% number (of students opposing the force) given earlier was clearly not representative, there is obviously some vocal opposition to the JHPD. How will this impact the force's ability to do their jobs?

It is clear this is not wanted, why despite John's Hopkins as a slave owner and Hopkins various injustices are y'all still pushing a police force and why is Hopkins using minorities to push for their own oppression.

How can you say you will be setting the example for accountable and community centered policing but you threatened Tawanda Jones, the mother of a victim of police homicide for simply protesting on campus against your very unwanted police force? How will you respond when the first person dies at the hand of JHUPOLICE?

As a near-lifelong Baltimore resident and a longtime JHU faculty member who opposes the formation of the JHPD, I believe that the presence of armed officers will be a deterrent to many members of the Baltimore and Hopkins communities who already feel unwelcome and unsafe on our campuses, including current students, faculty, and staff. Isn't this at odds with university leadership's recently-stated desire to see more in-person (rather than online) activity?

There have been a number of questions about a situation that happened with Twanda Jones and so I just want to pose it out loud to the panel. What are any can you give any updates or any information about that situation that happened with Twanda Jones?

I am in full support of the Johns Hopkins Police Force. I do not feel safe when I come to work and this has an impact on how I feel about my workplace. It is my hope that things will change in the near future.

I plan to look over the MOU in more detail, but I feel this is a great start. Many thanks to everyone who is working on this important safety initiative.

I work on the Homewood, and I am terrified about crime in this city and about the potential for an active shooting situation to occur on campus or in my building.

How will Hopkins ensure its students' comfort being on campus? I was almost scared away from returning to lab yesterday because of all the officers in full gear outside of Turner. It makes a very hostile environment that can intimidate students from accessing their workspaces.

It's absolute baloney that a majority of the community opposes the police force. No survey has been taken. And many staff and faculty who want the police force are frankly frightened to speak out.

Can you publish data that shows community support of this initiative? Its been mentioned regularly that there is "widespread support" but no backing data has ever been provided.

How do you respond to concerns that have been raised that residents of Baltimore City have not had a chance to have their opinion on the creation of this private police force accounted in some meaningful way (e.g. via city ballot) due to the current oversight of BPD at the state and not city level. As well as concerns that this very issue is scheduled for the ballot in November?

Then how will arming them make the students safer?

When the only tool you have is a hammer, every problem looks like a nail.

Please know you have way more who do not support you Dr Bard!

How will you ensure students feel safe on campus? A hostile, policed environment will bar people from doing their work.

How will you address questions that are not answered here? Are you reading all the questions or picking and choosing?

How do you reconcile the significant and persistent protests from university and community members against JHPD -- how is that addressed in the MOU?

Do the protests against the JHPD count as community feedback?

This town hall was a joke. The only question I asked that was answered was "are you picking and choosing questions." This was a complete farce.

Phone Message: Community Member called to express their disapproval over JHPD and asked for JHU not to move forward in their plans. She shared that she has a son who has not had positive experiences with the police, and she feels that the JHU campus is no longer a welcoming/friendly place.

Individual did not ask for a call back or want to give a name or contact information.

Why doesn't Hopkins utilize the funds for the JHPD to invest in community health initiatives given the data on the benefits of public health approaches to violence and crime prevention?

I am deeply concerned about the prospect of JHU moving forward with an armed police force.

Please dismantle this endeavor.

I moved to Baltimore as an adult nearly 15 years ago, having grown up white in Central Pennsylvania. I became a founding member and steward of the No Boundaries Coalition. When I began hearing my predominantly Black neighbors' personal experiences of having been brutalized, antagonized, intimidated, threatened, debased, robbed, and injured by police here in Baltimore (see, for example, <https://www.noboundariescoalition.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/No-Boundaries-Layout-Web-1.pdf>

), it was hard for me to believe. Now, I am gravely concerned that the establishment of an armed JHU Police force will further endanger my neighbors whom racism, transphobia, and xenophobia already marginalize and target with violence. An armed police force will not make us safer. Please heed the community's outcry and permanently dissolve these plans.

Why does Hopkins insist on going forward with the JH PD despite protests by students? Will the next townhall be in person?

Please do not go forward with the private police. I was there in Annapolis years ago when a huge line of students, faculty, neighborhood, Baltimore community members, and the NAACP spoke out in opposition to private police. LISTEN TO US AND SAY NO TO PRIVATE POLICE. Respectfully, Mattee Becker MICA alum who took classes at JHU, delegate of IATSE Local 487, and teacher in BCPS

A history of violent, egregious, illegal behavior on the part of BCPD has resulted in a consent decree between BCPD and the US Department of Justice. I believe that insufficient time has passed for us to feel comfortable that the Consent Decree is having a positive effect and that we can begin to reduce our fear of Baltimore police officers and to feel that they provide a sense of security. So why does the MOU between BCPD and the proposed JHPD promise a reduction of "incidents of violence" within the "university perimeter?"

I rarely receive email reports about "incidents of violence" on the Homewood campus, although I hear of such incidents in the surrounding neighborhoods, where a JHPD would have no jurisdiction. So isn't the MOU a toothless tiger?

Hi, I just learned that there's an armed robbery at the 3700 - 3800 block of Tudor Arms Avenue around 3:30PM. THIS IS OUTRAGEOUS. For the past 4 years, this particular combination of time and location has been extremely safe, and now it isn't. During the past year, violent crimes have crept toward the northwest of Homewood campus, which, please let me reiterate, has been safe for a long while. Please do something to stop this. Be it deploying more Baltimore City Police or establish JHPD, please do something to ensure a safe neighborhood. Please let the criminals know they don't belong here and will suffer severe consequences if they threaten the neighborhood. Thank you.

I am a resident of Charles Village, and the presence of an armed private police force at JHU would affect myself, my family, and my community in addition to the staff and students at JHU. I want to indicate my strong opposition to the creation of this force. It is not only unnecessary but entirely unacceptable for more armed police to be present in our community. The people here do not want this. Please rethink this dangerous choice that goes against the needs, wants, and values of the majority of this community. We do not want more weapons and more police here.

I am writing to register my opposition to the establishment of a private and armed JHU police force. I have lived in Baltimore for 5 years and I see no need for an additional police force, especially in light of the threat that these officers will pose to students and faculty of color.

As a parent of a JHU student, I worry about the safety of my child on a dangerous JHU campus. Six day-time robberies in a few weeks imply that the criminals find JHU a lawless campus. JHU needs police now. It cannot wait until the next victim assaulted or murdered.

Why are there no published statistics on the level of community support for this initiative? This is the largest research university in the world and it is shocking that there was no data presented on community support or feedback. It suggests that the university is unwilling to share the true thoughts of the community.

As an Abell Avenue resident since 2005 and on the 3200 block of St. Paul Street before that I fully support the arming of Hopkins police. My friend, [REDACTED] who also lives on Abell and has lived within walking distance of the Homewood campus since 1953 also strongly supports your efforts to keep us safe. Thank You.

Thanks for this opportunity to offer feedback. I remain strongly opposed to the creation of this police force for all of the reasons that I shared in previous discussions, emails, and meetings about this topic.

As a JHU freshman on Homewood campus, I feel like my life is at risk. I am frightened by the police car on fire in front of dorm during orientation week, followed by six armed robberies from 10/6/22 to 10/27. Police on campus cannot wait until 2023. It needs to be right now.

Since this is the only way to provide feedback about the JHPD MOU, I am sending this email which I doubt anyone will read. It is shameful that you've canceled your public meetings; this only confirms the protesters' argument that Hopkins has not been listening to the public throughout this process, and will not change its course of action based on public feedback. I oppose a private police force at Hopkins because the institution is privatizing the city's shared public spaces under the false promise of increased security for the lucky few who fall under its protection. This is an anti-democratic, divide-and-conquer strategy.

As a parent of a freshman on Homewood campus. I worry about the safety of my child. Police car on fire in front of student dorm and six robberies in October make it clear that my child's life could be at risk any time. JHU Police needs to be present now, not in 2023.

I am writing in opposition to the JHU private police force. I live near the JHU Homewood campus and have participated in many community events there. A private police force would make me and many others in this community less safe.

Study after study has shown that the police escalate violence, while consciously or unconsciously targeting black, brown, and poor people.

I stand with the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences Faculty Senate, the JHU Black Student Union Executive Board, the JHU African Students Association, the South Asian Students at Hopkins, and the many others who oppose this.

I am connecting with my community members, the mayor, and the commissioner to continue to resist this.

My name is [REDACTED], am a 25 year resident of Baltimore city, and have worked for Kennedy Krieger Institute for 15 years and I firmly oppose the JHU forming an armed police unit. I walk to work every day and live just a mile from JH hospital. Adding armed forces will endanger employees and community members and well as further harm relationships with underserved communities where Johns Hopkins resides.

As a resident I hope you put people first.

As an alum of the public health school (and current resident of the area that would be covered by the new police force), I've been extremely disappointed in JHU's refusal to modify its stance in spite of community concerns about Hopkins policing. The lack of evidence-based arguments for a private police force is striking -- for an institution so committed to evidence-based policy and programs. I will continue ignoring the university's calls for donations as a result of the ways it has ignored student, staff, AND community opposition to its proposed MOU and force. Though discouraged, I am still holding out hope that the university administration will reconsider its approach.

My name is [REDACTED] and I'm a Baltimore City resident and homeowner in the Better Waverly neighborhood. I'm writing to express my strong opposition to Johns Hopkins' armed private police department.

More police does not equal an increase in safety. In reality, a greater police presence in the communities around Hopkins property would have a marked increase in danger for students of color and non-Hopkins community members of color, who would be actively surveilled, targeted, arrested, and harassed based on police profiling.

Rather than forcing an unaccountable private police force onto the city, Hopkins should instead work to repair the generations of harm that its institution has caused to Black Baltimoreans and partner with the City to directly address the issues that actually contribute to crime, such as rampant inequality and economic segregation.

Hello,

I watched the recording of one of the town halls and wanted to express my support for all the effort and detail going into the JHPD. I think everything sounds well thought out, aligns well with law enforcement agencies and policies established in Baltimore City and around Maryland, and I feel as though any questions I had were all answered well during the town hall, including things I hadn't thought of before.

I enthusiastically welcome our own police department. As was stated by someone in the town hall, the stress of having to come into work has increased tremendously the past couple of years. I was born and raised in Baltimore City and after 45 years of life, I'm actually nervous for the first time with parking and walking around East campus and much of East Baltimore that I've never felt uncomfortable in before. Employees and patients need the security of well trained and armed officers.

While I appreciate the heightened vigilance and concern some people in opposition have in light of many policing incidents around the country against citizens, I have confidence in the standards that will be set for the university department, as well as realize that given the recent history of various incidents involving the Baltimore Police Department there have been so many measures and policies set in place to prevent bad actions/actors as much as possible.

I hope the few loud voices from Homewood can realize that they don't represent us on the East campus who see a larger share of crime.

I was disgusted by what happened yesterday north of campus, where a student was held at gunpoint and driven around to various ATMs

I also didn't like how protesters didn't let anyone speak at the first MOU town hall

I'd like to know how students can show support for the JHPD effort. I feel you only get vicious pushback from a loud minority and don't see how most students (I think) actually support you

VP Ennis attended my Remington Community Association meeting and committed to sharing draft legislation with us before it was introduced. It was then introduced without that step being taken. Later, we were told no Remington streets would be subject to policing, but the MOU says otherwise. How can we trust Johns Hopkins's word at this point when the foundation of community engagement in our neighborhood was two lies?

I have been saddened to hear that JHU continues to push for a private police force despite such strong rejection by many of its affiliates, including faculty, staff, and students, as well as the serious concerns by members of the community. Evidence has shown again and again that introducing such a police force would seriously put the lives and safety of students and city residents who are members of marginalized communities and communities of color at risk. I continue to be concerned about the lack of accountability and would have hoped that JHU would have used the time to explore alternatives to policing where it can invest the money into local projects and non-police forms of crime prevention which would probably have a much bigger impact and could put JHU at the forefront of pioneering such efforts. We have seen again and again, that more policing does not reduce crime. This is the case in Baltimore, NYC, LAX etc.

I am a concerned Baltimore citizen and a JHU alumnus. I have opposed a JHU private police force for YEARS, signing multiple petitions and speaking out.

I am so disappointed that this is still moving forward. There has been strong consistent opposition to this from citizens across the city. It's evident that JHU does not feel accountable to the citizens of Baltimore. A private police force would have even less accountability to us than the city police - this is so frightening!

Honestly, the way that JHU does not take its citizenship in the city of Baltimore seriously is a source of great shame for me. I feel ashamed to say I graduated from this institution.

Show that you actually care about being good citizens of this city and call this off!!

Dear Mr. Bard and JHU administrators,

As both a Baltimore City resident and faculty member of the Bloomberg School of Public Health, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Johns Hopkins Police Department (JHPD), armed or otherwise. There are myriad reasons why Baltimore City does not need more policing, especially of the nature that JHU is planning. The University's earlier efforts to engage the public have been performative at best, disingenuous at worst, and demonstrate a deep disrespect for the communities in which they operate. The strong and vehement opposition to JHU's original plans in 2020 from faculty and students demonstrate that, even within the institution, there is not wholesale support for a private police force. I want to assure you that there is still strong and continued opposition to JHPD in JHU's faculty and student body, as evidenced by new faculty body resolutions and very public student opposition.

The draft MOU between a potential JHPD and BPD released by JHU's Public Safety Office raises more concerns than ever about the role of JHPD, how it will contribute to the policing and oppression of marginalized voices and bodies in and around JHU's campuses, and *still* does not meaningfully address concerns about transparency and accountability. Unfortunately, and as expected, the University-held town halls were not approached in the spirit of *actually* listening to community input but rather were used to control which voices were heard.

In sum, I add my voice to oppose the JHPD and ask *who* beyond key people in the administration are asking for this. Also, I have shared these thoughts in writing with my council member, the mayor and policy commissioner. =

Best,

[REDACTED]

My name is [REDACTED]. I am a member of the faculty at the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University, and a near-lifelong Baltimore City resident. I am writing to you today to document my profound opposition to the establishment of a Johns Hopkins Police Department (JHPD).

In the summer of 2020, over 6,000 people - JHU faculty, staff, students, alums, as well as Baltimore residents - joined over 50 local, statewide, and national organizations, including the ACLU of MD and the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, in signing a petition opposing the creation of the JHPD. The pushback to this initiative has only expanded since that time, as this ever-growing list of documented opposition attests.

On September 23rd, The Johns Hopkins News-Letter quoted Dr. Bard as saying that a private, armed campus police is "not anything new" and "just puts us on par with our peers in the city of Baltimore." These statements normalize something that has already caused irreparable harm. In July 2013, Morgan State Police, in conjunction with the Baltimore Police Department, killed Tyrone West, an unarmed Black man. As West's sister, Tawanda Jones, recently said of the JHPD: "...with this force, I'm really scared, because who's going to be the next Tyrone West?"

My neighborhood association is the Abell Improvement Association, and we oppose the formation of JHPD and also oppose BPD signing the MOU. Given that crime around the Homewood and medical campuses has declined significantly over the last several years, can you offer a justification why JHPD is needed and why you want officers to carry weapons when we have a Baltimore Police Department?

im curious on how you think this is helping safety? these cops are only here to protect your property and will end up causing irreparable damage to baltimore communities throughout ALL your campuses

As a resident of Charles Village, I am opposed to the armed private police force. I don't believe that more policing will reduce crime. I would much sooner see that funding go to economic development and investment in education for the surrounding communities. More arms will simply result in more dead and injured young people, as well as more young people in the criminal justice system, which ultimately makes our society less safe.

I want to express my appreciation and encouragement for the work of your office and my Hopkins colleagues there for what they do to keep Hopkins and our community safe. I understand the proposed JH Police force has come under recent criticism, however we can all acknowledge the current state of events is unacceptable and unsustainable.

Specifically, I support your office in moving forward boldly to do what is necessary to bolster the safety of our Hopkins community, and thereby the greater Baltimore community we serve and the world. Without a safe working environment we cannot effect change in our surrounding community or fulfill the mission of Johns Hopkins University and Medicine:

"To educate its students and cultivate their capacity for lifelong learning, to foster independent and original research, and to bring the benefits of discovery to the world."

Thank you for your time, effort and for your stewardship of safety in our community.

Good Evening.

I'm a parent of a student.

I read the notices about the crimes and I'm really disgusted by it. I've been watching JHU try to get police since 2018. What do we have to do to get campus police? How hard can this be? What are you guys waiting for?

Please please do something because it appears that things are out of control.

Thank you.

I am writing to express my opposition to the creation of a Johns Hopkins private police force. I both live in Baltimore City and work for the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

It is true that Baltimore can be an unsafe city and I believe that Johns Hopkins has a responsibility to Baltimore to be part of the solution. However, an armed police force is not the solution. A private armed police force will serve to further insulate Hopkins workers and students from the larger Baltimore community. This will create more antagonism between Baltimore residents and Hopkins, and will lead to higher levels of crime against Hopkins staff/students. Instead, Hopkins should invest in affordable housing, education and mental health services for the low-income residents of Baltimore.

Baltimore is a majority Black city and given what we know of police violence against people of color, I think that arming police on JHU campuses is going in exactly the wrong direction. People's safety should be your priority and by allowing an armed police force on JHU campus you would be putting them in jeopardy.

I think a police force at Hopkins would be beneficial especially on the East Baltimore campus. However I am concerned that you will be pulling from the same pool of people that Baltimore police is looking to hire from as well. Thus we can end up with 2 police forces both unable to fill the available positions.

I do think the Hopkins police is needed to uphold safety on the campus as it effects retention as well as new hire and thus effects the overall the quality of the entire institution.
