

Purpose and Organization of Report

The San Francisco Human Rights Commission (HRC) facilitated two community meetings organized by the San Francisco Police Commission. The purpose of the meeting was to gather community input on CEDs. This report summarizes the community input and categorizes it into central themes.

The HRC supported facilitation of the community meetings in order to engage diverse communities and share their input with the Police Commission. We acknowledge the commitment and dedication of the Police Commission and SFPD leadership to organize and coordinate the community meetings.

The two meetings were convened on September 12 and September 19th and hosted over two hundred community members and dozens of officers. There were mixed feelings on the presence of the officers and some were concerned about their participation in the groups. Community members asked questions of the officers and wanted to hear the officers' opinions on myriad issues linked to CEDs and share their frustration on community/police relations.

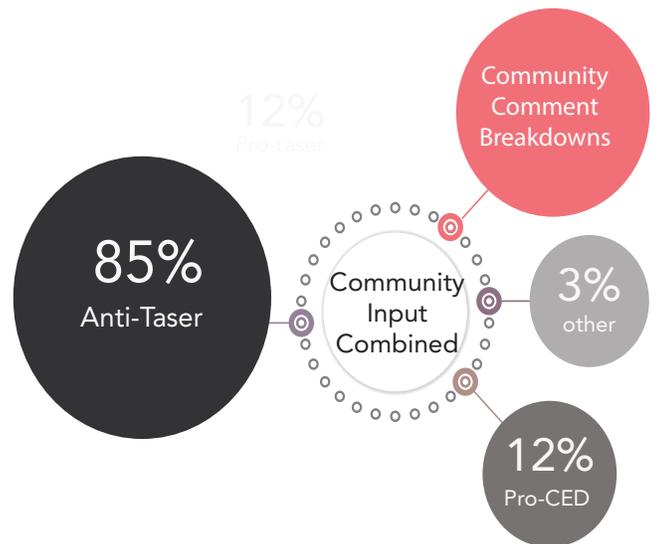
We acknowledge the Chief's desire to increase access to less lethal tools for SFPD officers, and understand that the most immediate questions are:

- Should SFPD use Conducted Energy Devices (CEDs), such as Tasers?
- If the Department adopts CEDs, what should the Department's CED policy be?

This report will share information on the community meetings, the central themes of the community input, and thoughts from the HRC. The meetings resurfaced many of the unanswered questions around race, community and police. The HRC hopes that the Police Commission will consider the concerns raised in this process as they begin to move forward with the recommendations from the Department of Justice report.

Central Themes

Several themes emerged from the community meetings hosted by San Francisco Police Commission and facilitated in partnership with the Human Rights Commission. Similar themes emerged in three additional conversations facilitated by the Human Rights Commission: Suunydale, Potrero Hill (youth group); and a community event at Willie Brown Middle School. The Human Rights Commission is currently working to coordinate two additional meetings in the Mission and Tenderloin.



Overall, most community input was against the SFPD obtaining CEDs. The community input against CEDs largely broke down into four main themes, including Community Safety, Signaling and Communication, Ethics and Financial Allocations.

A minority of input was pro-CEDs, citing a number of reasons.

Some input referred to other areas of concern.

All of this input is detailed below.

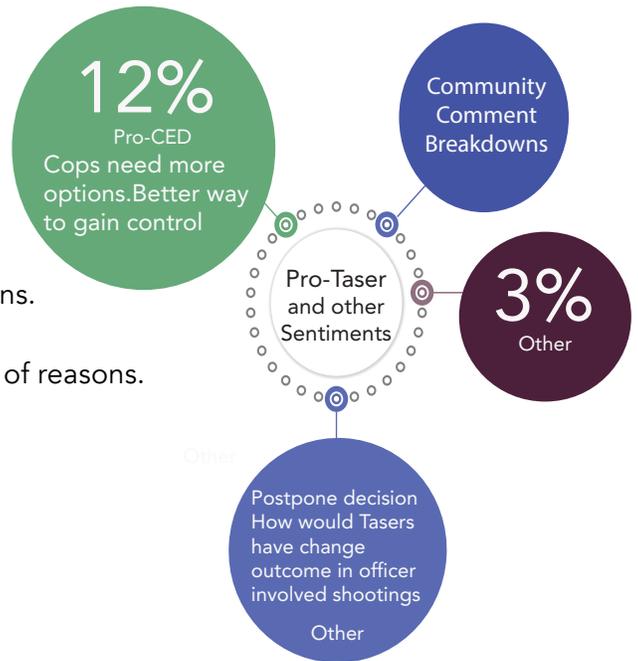
Anti-CED Input:

Community Safety

There were 478 recordings of comments against CEDs, of that number 161 of them were specific to community safety. Within that the largest area of concern with 56 comments focused on de-escalation practices.

There is strong sentiment from the community that CED’s are counter to the practice of de-escalation. Below is the content that contributed to the central theme of Community Safety. The number in parentheses represents the number of occurrences recorded from the various meetings.

- What about **de-escalation techniques, trainings & policy?** (CIT) that may decrease use of force (56)
- Tasers have significant **injury & death rate** (35)
- **Does not promote safety/ can escalate** or compliance, or reduce death rate (24)
- Compounding Taser **risk factors:** drug use, low body mass, mental illness, asthma, heart conditions, pregnancy, language barriers, and more (21)
- Tasers are functionally **unreliable,** heightening unpredictability (18)
- **Situational training required,** i.e. how to respond in context of meth PCP, mind-altering substance, help & training for police with PTSD (7)



Communication and Signaling

In this area community is dissatisfied with “misleading messaging”, the implication that Tasers will be replacing guns when in actuality, it becomes an additional weapon for use, presumably on people of color, homeless and other vulnerable populations. Again, the number in parentheses represents the amount of times the comment was documented.

- Tasers are **not replacing guns** - representing increase in weaponry (23)
- Preexisting **lost of trust** with use of force, guns, etc. (23)
- Concern that tasers will be **disproportionately used to target people of color, homeless community** (22)
- Focus should be on **building community & outreach** (21)
- Sends a **negative / counterproductive message** to community of color & **community input** (18)
- We need **commissioners** to hear these thoughts (8)
- *Focus on **educating the public** as to laws, police procedures, how police are trained* (2)
- "Show police training to community" (2)

Ethics

This theme highlights language that challenged whether SFPD is in a position to use CEDs in a way that they are proposing. Many feel the ambiguity around use and accountability is cause to halt moving forward with adopting CEDs. Many also took issue with the role a potential CED vendor plays in being a source of information for adopting the device. Little research to support the SFPD claims of benefits of CEDs. CEDs are inhumane.

- **Unclear guidelines & definition** of usage, force & **accountability** (44)
- **Research validity & reliability** (17)
- **Conflict of interest** (11)
- Tasers have been associated with **torture, cruel & unusual** (6)

Financial Allocations

There were several comments about the amount of money being proposed to adopt CEDs, and on how money could be better spent on other strategies and community need. Questions arose around like, “Is this the best use of funds?” This area also highlights the community-preferred use of funds that would be allocated for CEDs.

- High financial **cost** (19)
- Increase funding & **priority** to police **de-escalation** & nonviolence & **anti-bias** training & policy (16)
- Community-preferred **allocations**: education, technology, housing, homeless outreach, social workers, mental health, healthcare workers (13)

Pro-Taser Input:

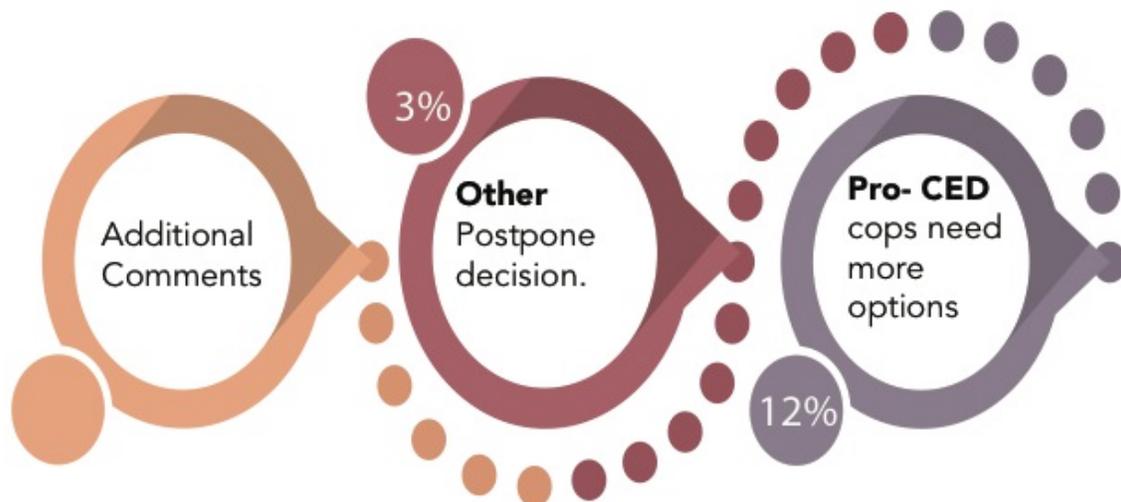
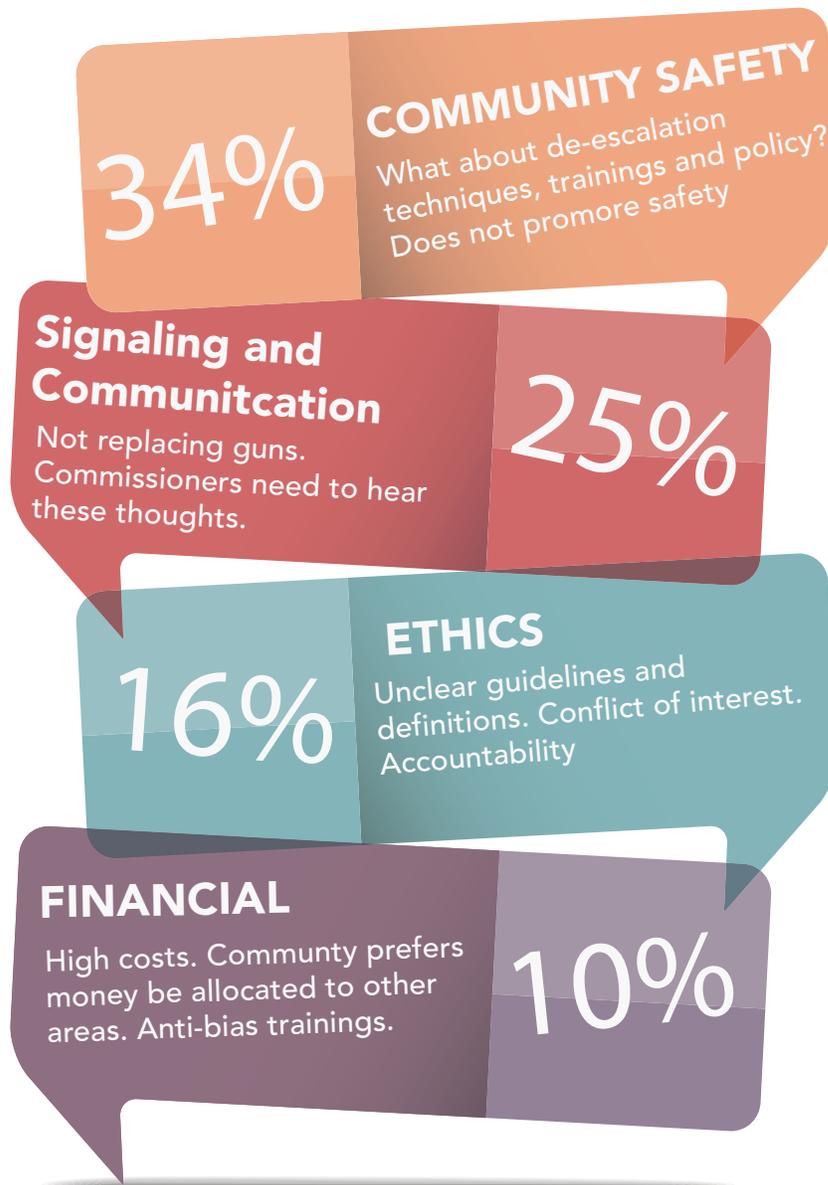
- Cops need more options, less lethal (26)
- Possible prevent violent crimes (10)
- No reason given, or concern for personal safety (10)
- *Better means of control than gun*, "better way to gain control than gun", taser collects info on user & target (8)
- *Supplement TASERS with training (3)
- Research based (1)

Other Input:

- Postpone decision (3)
- SFSD & BART already use, Oakland is against use (1)
- Irresponsible to use less than lethal force in certain situations (1)
- Only other option is sometimes guns? (1)
- SFUSD should NOT be involved in forums (1)
- Want to hear officers' opinions on tasers (2)
- How taser (CED) would have been used in Charlottesville incident? (2)
- Pedestrians should also be allowed to protect themselves (1)
- How often do cops come in contact with a life or death situation? (1)
- Will first aid/hospital care be provided after tasing? (2)
- More beat officers instead? (1)

In the appendix of the document are tables that highlight the content and some of the specific comments of each of the individual meetings. In the following sections we highlight the central theme of each meeting and some of the content and comments.

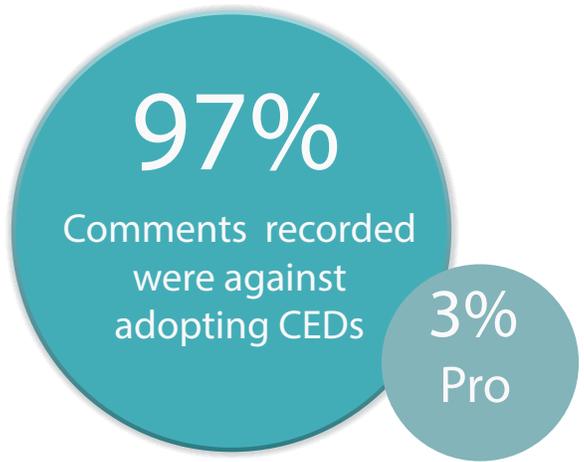
85% of community input was against CEDs.
This anti-CED sentiment breaks down as follows:



Pro-CED sentiment and other Comments

September 12, 2017
Bill Graham Auditorium
 Estimated Attendance 160+

An overwhelming majority of those attending the first of the community meetings were opposed to SFPD adopting CEDs. We did hear from some CED supporters that they felt their thoughts were not being captured in the notes. Nonetheless, the number of people speaking against CEDs was larger than those in support of the device being adopted.



Financial Allocation

High financial costs. Should prioritize de-escalation. Look at the UK model. prioritize community-preferred allocations.



Community Safety

CEDs divert police away from de-escalation techniques. Increase implicit bias trainings instead. CEDs linked to 1,000 deaths.



Communication

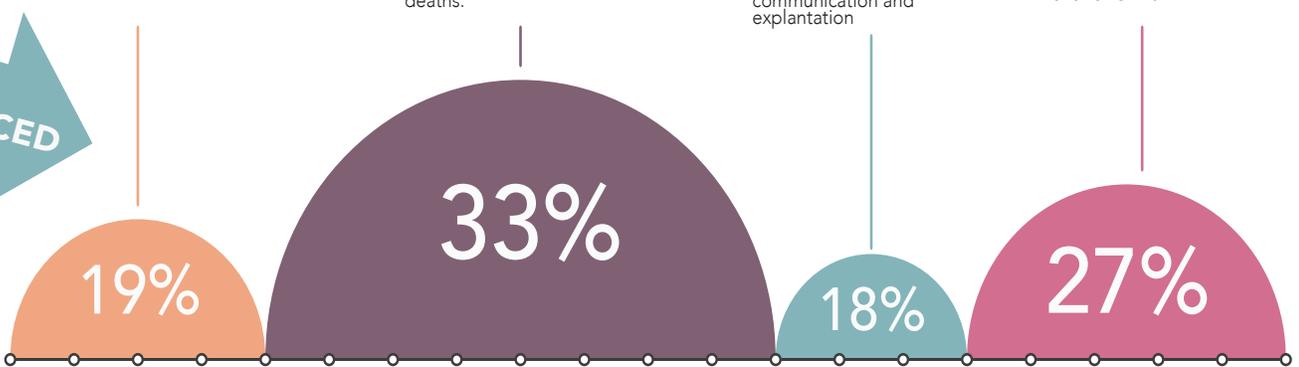
How many people will be shot with CEDs each year? Commissioners need to hear these thoughts. Need more communication and explanation



Ethics

CEDs are inhumane. Questionable relationship with Axon. Lack of research supporting police claims in favor of CEDs.

97%
 Anti- CED



Pro CED
 No reason
 Concern for Public Safety

September 19, 2017
City College of San Francisco
Estimated attendance 120+

85% Comments recorded were against adopting CEDs

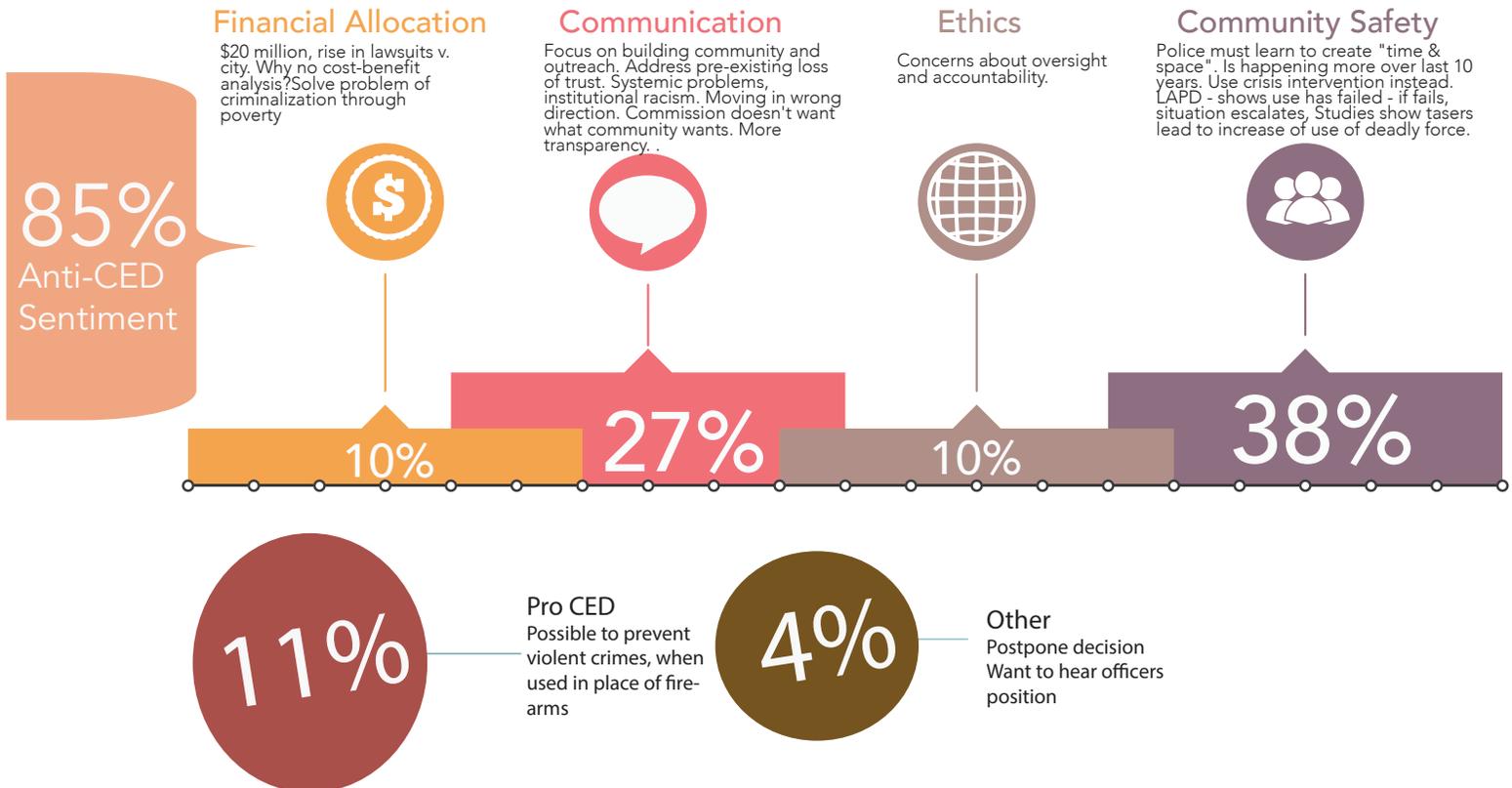
Comments recorded were in support of adopting CEDs **11%**

The second in the meetings facilitated in partnership with the San Francisco Police Commission was hosted at City College of San Francisco. Again, community came out to share their thoughts on adopting CEDs

in San Francisco. Similar themes emerged, along with skepticism about whether the process would be used to inform the Police Commission's decision on CEDs. President of the Police Commission, Julius Turman tried to assure the crowd, that no decisions had been made and that their voices and opinions would be shared with the full commission.

Comments in support of CEDs appeared to increase at this meeting - 12% as opposed to 3% at the previous meeting. 88% of the comments recorded were anti-CED . Of the 88% in, community safety comments are 38% of the total comments and ethics account for 27%. Financial allocation and communication were each 10% and the remaining 4% were put under the **other** comments section, those comments highlighted:

- Oakland is against use/SF Sheriff and BART already use
- Postpone decision
- Irresponsible to use in certain situations
- SFUSD should not be involved forums



October 2, 2017

Sunnydale

Estimated attendance – 10 people



In an attempt to engage with additional community members, the HRC hosted a meeting with the San Francisco Bar Association at a community center in the Sunnydale housing development. The focus group was smaller between 10 – 15 people participated and similar concerns were raised. The majority of the ant-CEd comments came from two themes – community safety and communication/signaling – and accounted for 87% of the comments. The remaining 13% included concerns around the inhumane use of CEDs and a question about if “tasers” would have made a difference in lives of officer involved homicides.

Below are some of the quotes from the attendees from that meeting:

"We [black men] are always suspect"

"They [police] will use them [tasers] where they are always over policing"

"Officers don't know how to approach Blacks, specifically men."

"Tasers are to try and pacify the community because the baton looks too violent on camera."

There are other ways to deal w/ people

"When 1 officers pulls a gun or taser all pull one!"

Mental illness = Higher risk of dying from tasers, also pregnancy and heart disease"

"Knowing the city doesn't mean serving the city"

"The approach on dealing w/ community is everything."

"Officers should be mandated to build relationship w/ community"



Potrero Hill

Estimated attendance 60+



Chief William Scott and leadership from SFPD engaged in difficult and intense dialogues with youth about their perceptions of SFPD and concerns about additional “tools” being added to the SFPD inventory.

Youth reviewed the FAQ sheet on CED’s, held table discussions, asked the Chief and the officers present a range of questions and wrote their thoughts on index cards.

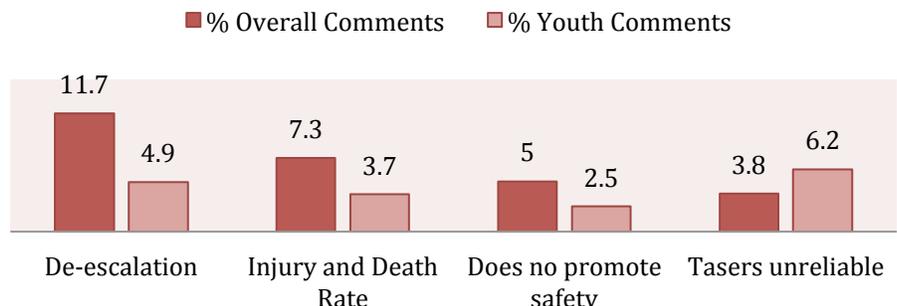


Community safety accounts for more than a third of the comments from all of the sessions. When we look at youth comment cards from the youth focused event in Potrero Hill, the comments that considered the possibility of CEDs centered around two thoughts:

1. Many of the youth were resigned to the fact that something negative would happen if they encountered the police and wanted the option.
2. It was conditional – i.e. tasers if the police go through training, or instead of a gun, etc.

There were some noticeable differences from the youth specific group and those of a mix of ages.

Youth concerns vs. Overall concerns



36%

Community
Safety

14%

Communication

50%

Pro-CED

Willie Brown, Middle School
Estimated participation – 14 people

The HRC hosted an information table at a community event at Willie Brown Middle School. Visitors to the table were asked to share their thoughts on CEDs . The HRC estimates fourteen people that visited the table and shared their thoughts on an index card. Of the fourteen people who shared their comments, one person self-identified as a former police officer. There seemed to be less knowledge about the device and we saw some youth explaining to the elders what they understood about "tasers" .

Director's Note

Through the community engagement workshop process, I struggled with how many of the youth were resigned to the idea that they would have an encounter with the police, that would be negative. Many attendees came to the meetings prepared with statistics, articles and opinions based on research and data from experts. Many attendees spoke from their own reality and concerns – including their experience-based expectations that they will have negative interactions with SFPD.

Community members shared their concerns over the disproportionate numbers of mentally ill, as well as black and brown people, who would be impacted by CED use.

I hope that SFPD is committed to addressing these perceptions and fears. To make a decision about CED use, without addressing the issues that arose from these discussions, would be a disservice to the process started for the overall implementation of DOJ recommendations.

Ultimately, as the Director of the Human Rights Commission and upon consultation with staff and community groups, I believe the decision as to whether or not the SFPD should have Tasers should come only after sustained and substantive progress in other areas of the DOJ recommendations, including bias, training and other areas of concern. This will help to address fears and concerns around how, and on whom, CEDs will be used. The majority of public comment at the community meetings, as well as data suggests that certain populations will be disproportionately impacted by the use of CED and will do little to improve community and police relations.

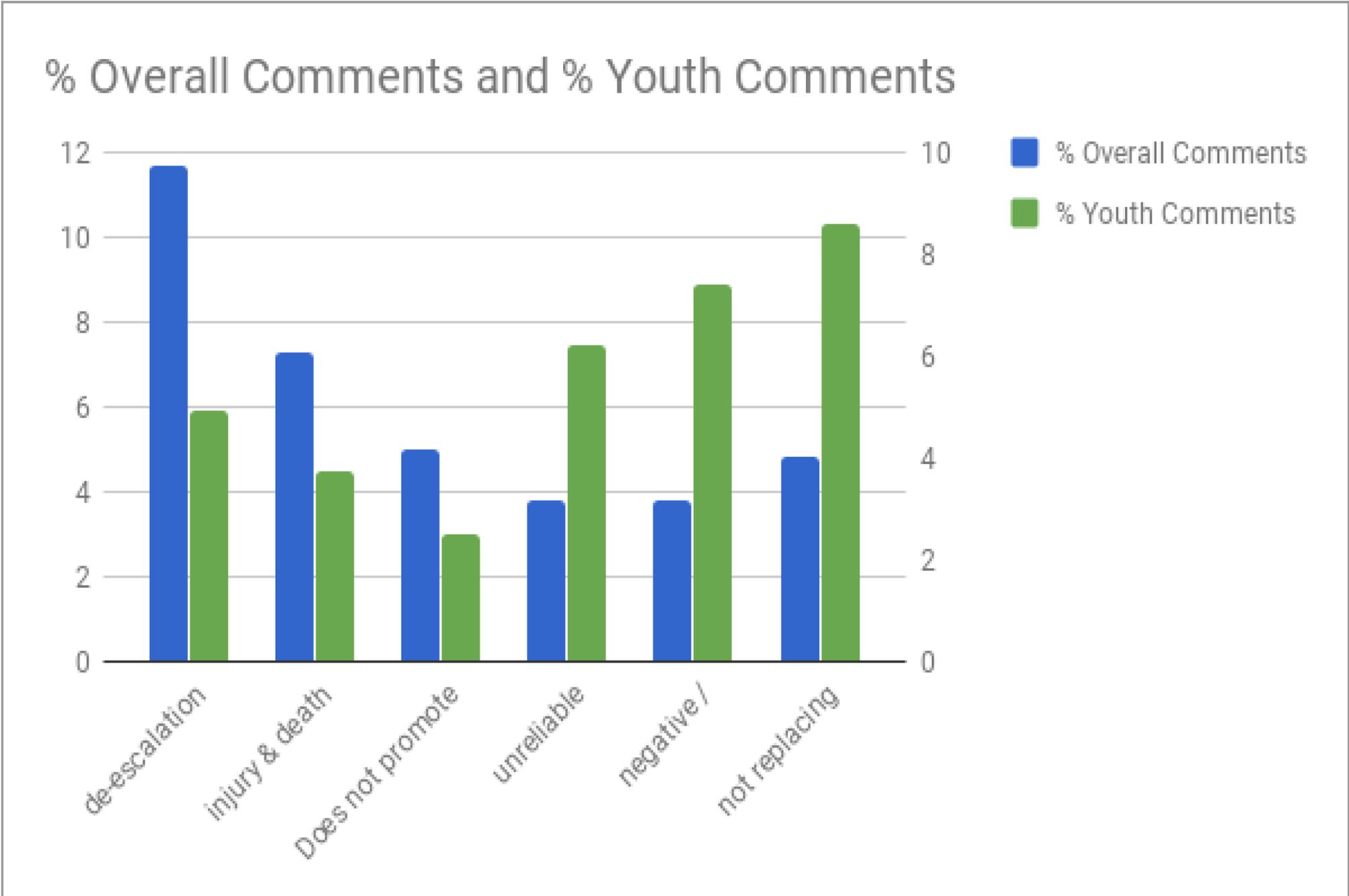
Central theme (Anti-taser):	Content:	Occurrence of content:	Occurrences tracked from ages (16-24)	Insights :	% of total comments	% of youth comments
<i>Community Safety</i>	What about de-escalation techniques, trainings & policy (CIT) that may decrease use of force?	56	4		11.7	4.9
	Tasers have significant injury & death rate	35	3		7.3	3.7
	Does not promote safety/ can escalate or compliance, or reduce death rate	24	2		5.0	2.5
	Compounding Taser risk factors: drug use, low body mass, mental illness, asthma, heart conditions, pregnancy, language barriers, and more	21	4		4.4	4.9
	Tasers are functionally unreliable , heightening unpredictability	18	5		3.8	6.2
	Situational training required , i.e. how to respond in context of meth PCP, mind-altering substance, help & training for police with PTSD	7	1		1.5	1.2
					161	
<i>Ethics</i>	Unclear guidelines & definition of usage, force & accountability	44	12		9.2	14.8
	Conflict of interest	11			2.3	0.0
	Research validity & reliability	17	1		3.6	1.2
	Tasers have been associated with torture, cruel & unusual	6			1.3	0.0
<i>Signaling & Communication</i>	Tasers are not replacing guns - representing increase in weaponry	23	7		4.8	8.6
	We need commissioner to hear these thoughts	8			1.7	0.0
	Concern that tasers will be disproportionately used to target people of color, homeless community	22	3		4.6	3.7
	Preexisting lost of trust with use of force, guns, etc.	23	2		4.8	2.5
	Sends a negative / counterproductive message to community of color & community input	18	6		3.8	7.4
	Focus should be on building community & outreach	21	3		4.4	3.7
	Focus on educating the public as to laws, police procedures, how police are trained	2			0.4	0.0

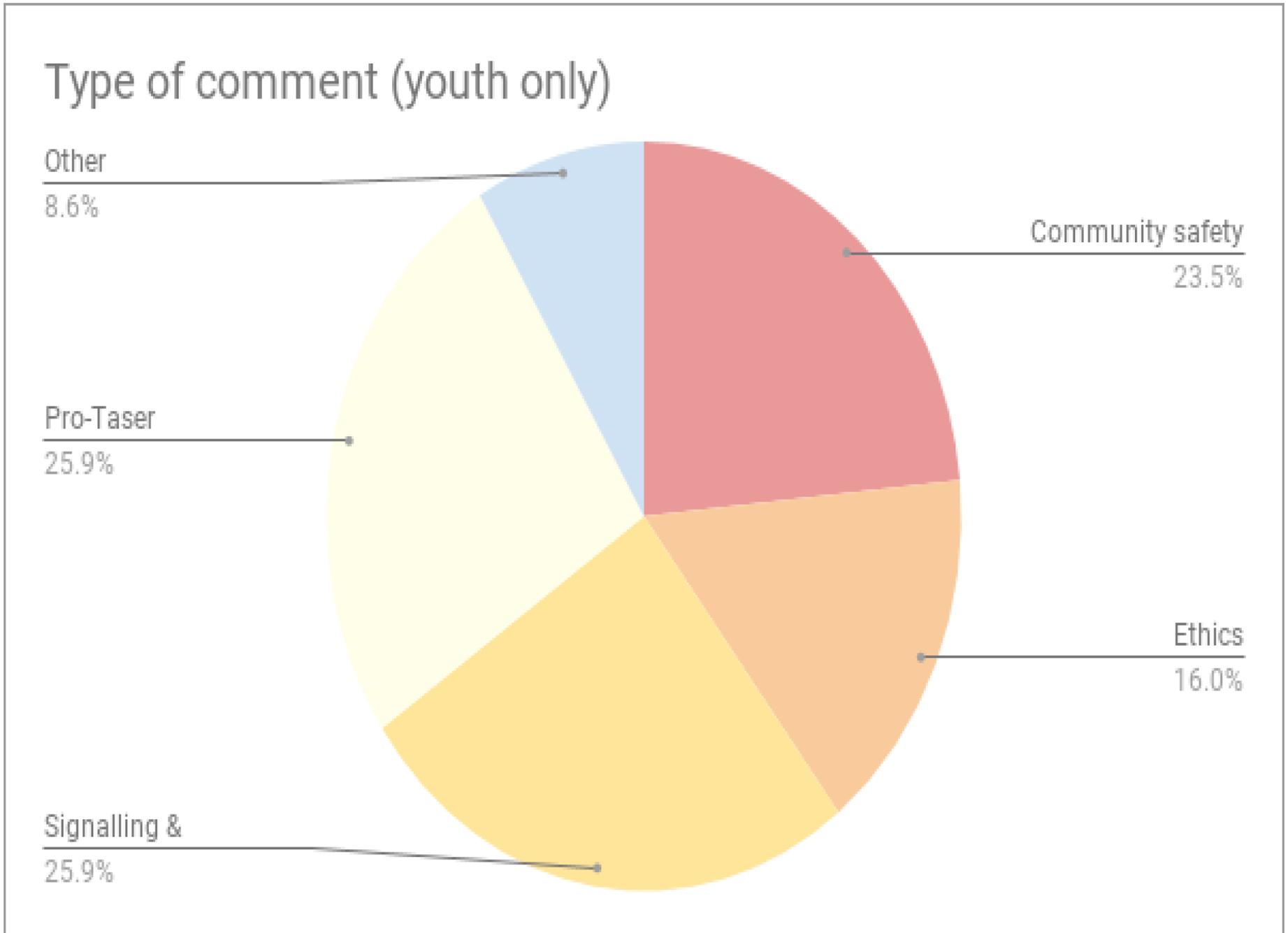
Comparisons : Total vs. youth only		Comment breakdown	
6.8		Community safety	33.7
3.6		Ethics	16.3
2.6		Signalling & Communication	24.5
-0.5		Financial Allocation	10.0
-2.4		Pro-Taser	12.1
0.2		Other	3.3
0.0			
-5.6		Sentiments against tasers	84.5
2.3		Pro-taser sentiments	12.1
2.3		Other	3.3
1.3			
0.0			
-3.8			
1.7		Youth breakdowns	
0.9		Community safety	23.5
2.3		Ethics	16.0
-3.6		Signalling & Communication	25.9
0.7		Financial Allocation	0.0
0.4		Pro-Taser	25.9

<i>Financial Allocations</i>	High financial cost	19			4.0	0.0
	Increase funding & priority to police de-escalation & nonviolence & anti-bias training & policy	16			3.3	0.0
	Community-preferred allocations : ed, tech, housing, homeless outreach, social workers, mental health, healthcare workers	13			2.7	0.0
Pro-taser comments / suggestions		10				
	Possible prevent violent crimes				2.1	0.0
	Research based	1			0.2	0.0
	Cops need more options, less lethal	26	13		5.4	16.0
	<i>Better means of control than gun</i>	8	2		1.7	2.5
	*Supplement TASERS with training	3	3		0.6	3.7
	No reason given, or concern for personal safety	10	3		2.1	3.7
Other:	SFSD & BART already use, Oakland is against use	1			0.2	0.0
	*Postpone decision	3			0.6	0.0
	Irresponsible to use less than lethal in certain situations	1			0.2	0.0
	-Only other option is sometimes guns?	1			0.2	0.0
	SFUSD should NOT be involved in forums	1			0.2	0.0
	<i>Want to hear officers' opinions on tasers</i>	2	1		0.4	1.2
	<i>How taser (CED) would be used in Charlottesville incident?</i>	2		1	0.4	1.2
	<i>Pedestrians should also be allowed to protect themselves</i>	1	1		0.2	1.2
	<i>How often do cops come in contact with a life or death situation?</i>	1		1	0.2	1.2
	<i>What type of taser?</i>	0			0.0	0.0
	<i>Will first aid/hospital care be provided after tasing?</i>	2	2		0.4	2.5
	<i>More beat officers instead?</i>	1	1		0.2	1.2
	Total =	478	81			

0.0	Other	8.6
4.0		
3.3		
2.7		
0.0		
2.1		
0.2		
-10.6		
-0.8		
-3.1		
-1.6		
0.0		
0.2		
0.6		
0.2		
0.2		
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-0.8		
-0.8		
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0.0		
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-1.0		

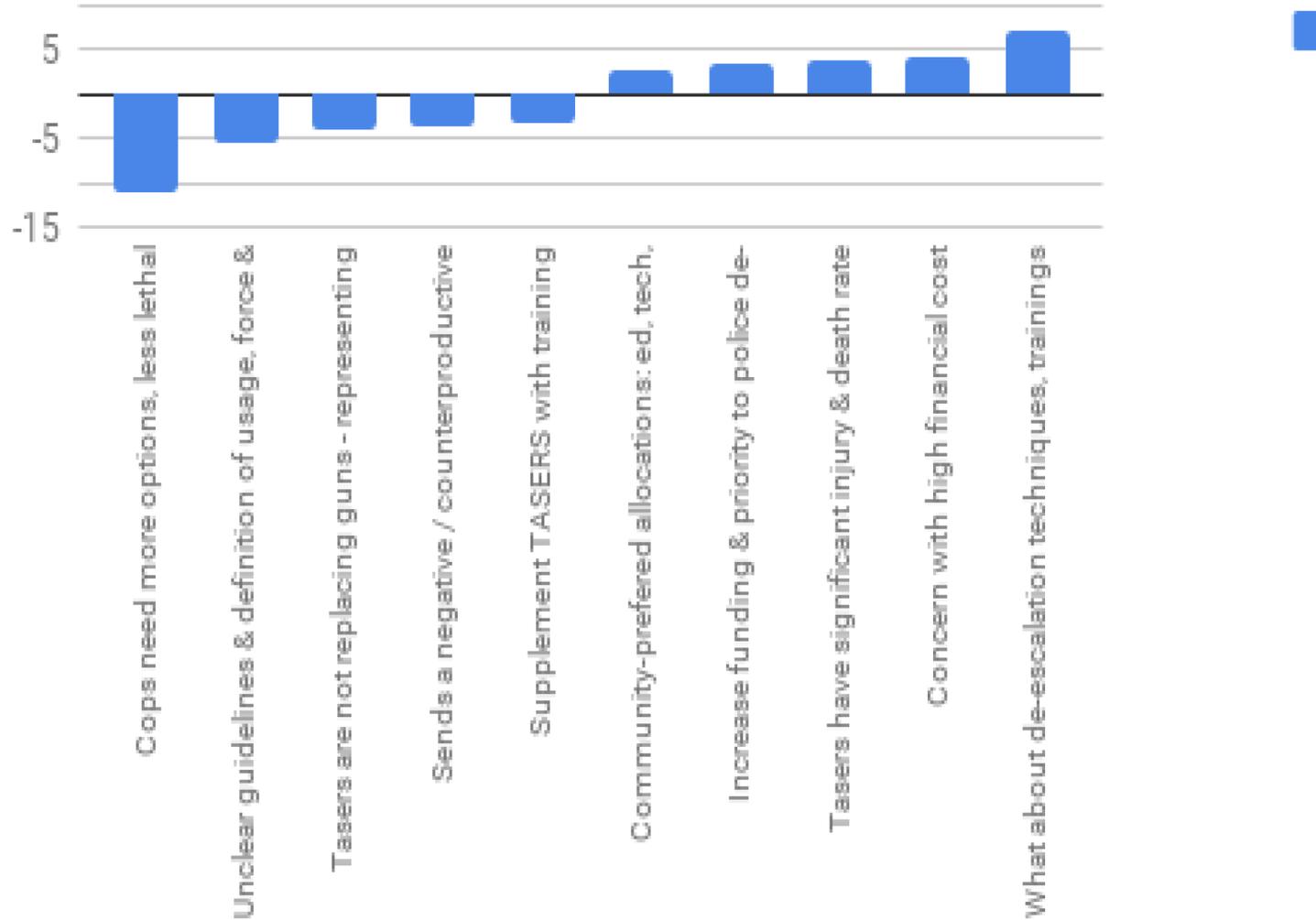
	% Overall Comments	% Youth Comments
What about <u>de-escalation techniques, trainings & policy</u> (CIT) that may decrease use of force?	11.7	4.9
Tasers have significant <u>injury & death rate</u>	7.3	3.7
<u>Does not promote safety/ can escalate</u> or compliance, or reduce death rate	5	2.5
Tasers are functionally <u>unreliable,</u> heightening unpredictability	3.8	6.2
Sends a <u>negative / counterproductive message</u> to community of color & <u>community input</u>	3.8	7.4
Tasers are <u>not replacing guns</u> - representing increase in weaponry	4.8	8.6

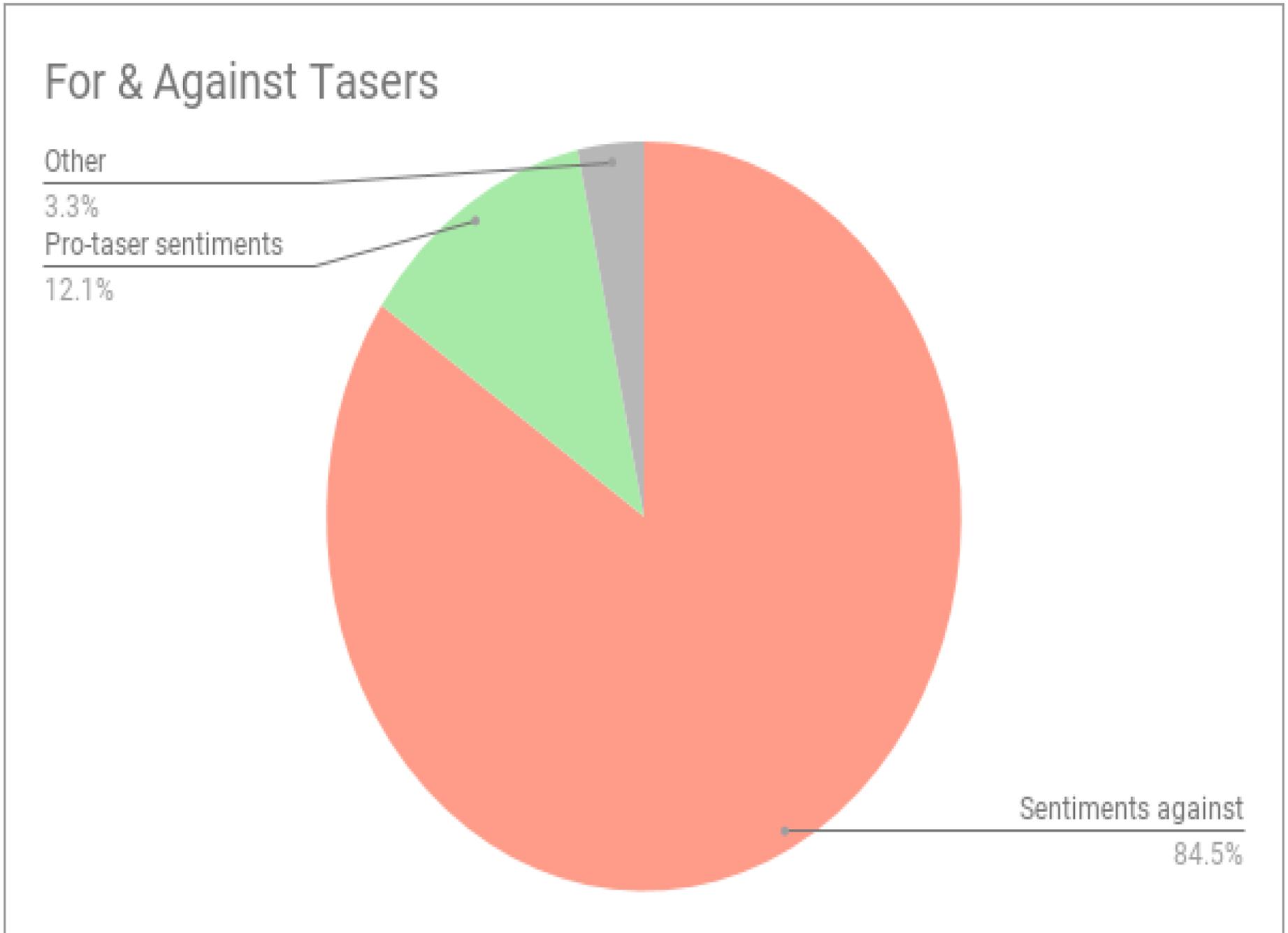


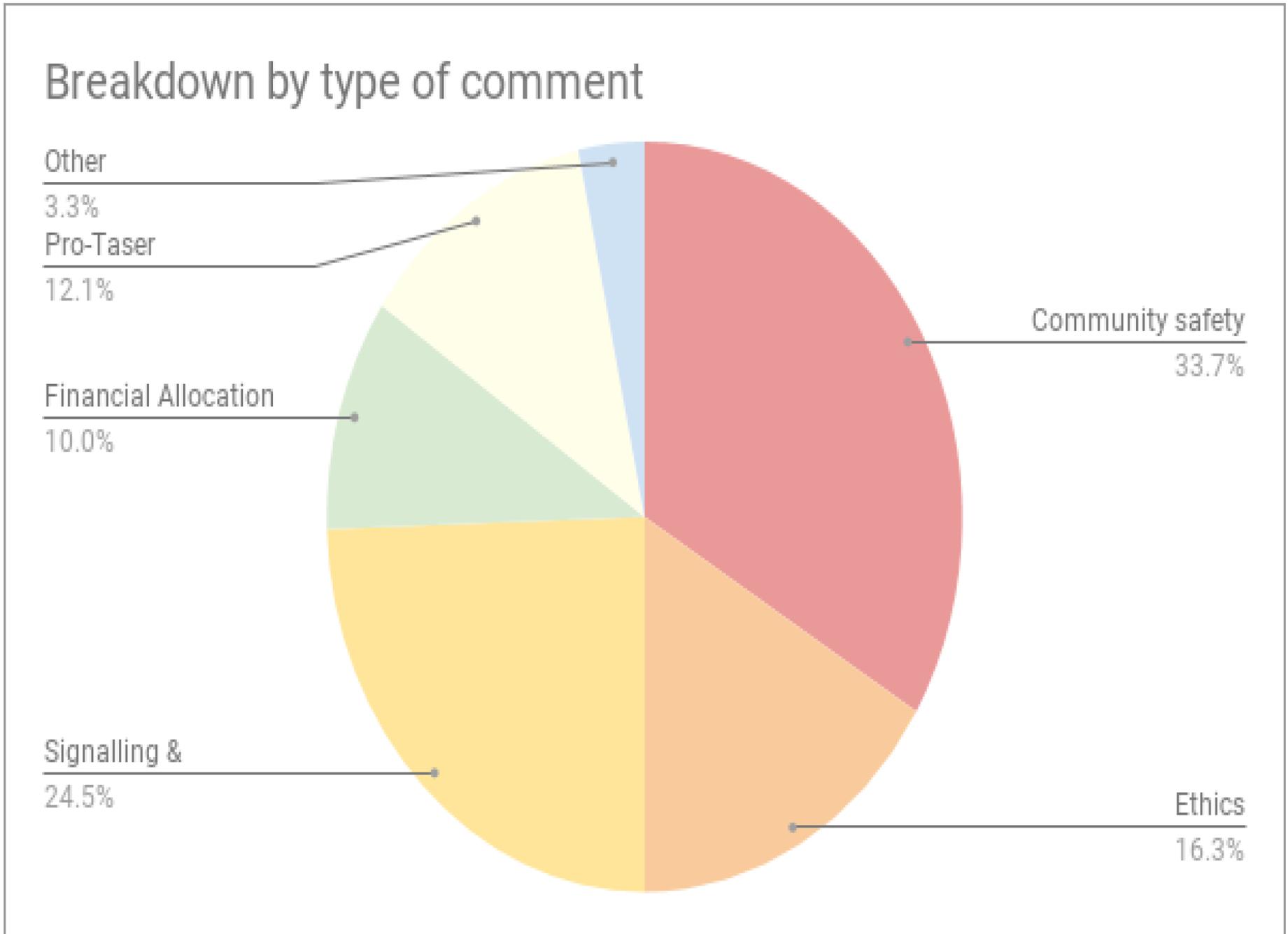


Youth vs. overall comments - significant discrepancies

Youth comments (n=81, -%) vs. overall (n=478, +%)







Central theme:	Content:	Specific comments:	Occurrence of content:
<i>Community Safety</i>	What about <u>de-escalation techniques, trainings & policy</u> (CIT) that may decrease use of force?	Taser option diverts police focus away from these. Harm-reduction CCSF classes instead? More <u>implicit bias</u> training. Net-launchers/more bean bags instead	23
	Tasers have significant <u>injury & death rate</u>	Taser use linked to 1,000 deaths. Taser injuries linked to brain damage, surface burn injuries, cardiac arrest	13
	<u>Does not promote safety</u> or compliance, or reduce death rate	UCSF Study: Tasers double the number of shooting deaths following their implementation	8
	Compounding Taser <u>risk factors</u> : drug use, low body mass, mental illness, asthma, heart conditions, pregnancy, and more	According to Axon's own guidelines. Cops cannot possibly ascertain these factors on visual	4
	Tasers are functionally <u>unreliable</u> , heightening unpredictability, confusion with gun by muscle memory	LAPD implementation - 50% no effect/increased danger, Seattle police attacked because CED failed to fire. 1/5 do not work out of the box	3
	<u>Situational training required</u> , i.e. how to respond in context of meth PCP, mind-altering substance, help & training for police with PTSD		0
<i>Ethics</i>	<u>Unclear guidelines & definition</u> of usage, force & <u>accountability</u>	Community members call for redesignation of Tasers from "non-lethal" to "less lethal", called "weapons" not "tools," and more clearly defined terms of use. DOJ say SFPD doesn't investigate use of force. D5.O5.02 is very vague. (H2: 'displays an intention to assault')	19
	<u>Conflict of interest</u>	Axon's questionable relationship with SFPD, Axon body camera audio inconsistencies & withholdings call design ethics into question - Nieto. Why did Axon lobby rep show up?	10
	<u>Research validity & reliability</u>	poverty of non-biased research supporting police claims in favor of Taser use. Axon releases skewed studies. Lack of transparency in data collection	9
	Tasers have been associated with <u>torture, cruel & unusual</u>	Tasers are inhumane	4
<i>Signaling & Communication</i>	Tasers are <u>not replacing guns</u> - representing increase in weaponry	How many people will be shot with tasers each year?	7
	We need <u>commissioner</u> to hear these thoughts	You're not here but there is vocal, justified opposition to this proposed policy. The community does not want tasers on our streets!	6

Central theme:	Content:	Specific comments:	Occurrence of content:
	Concern that tasers will be disproportionately used to target people of color	Communities more communication & explanation from cops	6
	Preexisting lost of trust with use of force, guns, etc.	Police need to change perspective. Empathy, passion, intelligence, wisdom = Key	5
	Sends a negative message to community of color	"Why do we need more weapons now, when crime is decreasing?" Why not focus more on community?	4
	Focus should be on building community & outreach		0
	<i>Focus on educating the public as to laws, police procedures, how police are trained</i>		0
Financial Allocations	High financial cost	\$20 million a year, \$10 per device. No city cost analysis, potential lawsuits	14
	Increase funding & priority to police de-escalation & nonviolence training & policy	Case study: UK cops & absence of lethal weapons (See row 3). Focus on 272 Fed review recs.	11
	Community-preferred allocations : ed, housing, social workers, healthcare workers	"Use money on education not housing, housing not CED"	5
Pro-taser comments / suggestions	Possible prevent violent crimes		0
	Research based		0
	Cops need more options, less lethal		0
	<i>Better means of control than gun</i>		0
	*Supplement TASERS with training		0
	No reason given, or concern for personal safety		5
	SFSD & BART already use, Oakland is against use		0
Other	*Postpone decision		0
	Irresponsible to use less than lethal in certain situations		0
	-Only other option is sometimes guns?		0
	SFUSD should NOT be involved in forums		0

Central theme:	Content:	Specific comments:	Occurrence of content:
	<i>Want to hear officers' opinions on tasers</i>		
	<i>How taser (CED) would be used in Charlottesville incident?</i>		
	<i>Pedestrians should also be allowed to protect themselves</i>		
	<i>How often do cops come in contact with a life or death situation?</i>		
	<i>What type of taser?</i>		
	<i>Will first aid/hospital care be provided after tasing?</i>		
	<i>More beat officers instead?</i>		

Central theme:	Content:	Specific comments:	Occurrence of content:
<i>Community Safety</i>	What about <u>de-escalation techniques, trainings & policy</u> (CIT) that may decrease use of force?	Not "us v. them" - Police must learn to create "time & space". Is happening more over last 10 years. Use crisis intervention instead of police. Promote, prevent, intervene. Increase options	20
	Tasers have significant <u>injury & death rate</u>	1,444 Taser deaths since 1983. U(C?)SF study, 2009: Increases deaths in custody. 29% in-custody deaths in Texas were by tasers in the past 10 years. Burns, kidney & heart damage, lifelong trauma from electricity, PTSD. CA 10th deadliest state.	17
	<u>Does not promote safety/ can escalate</u> or compliance, or reduce death rate	LAPD - shows use has failed - if fails, situation escalates, UK police: no guns. Studies show tasers lead to increase of use of deadly force.	11
	Compounding Taser <u>risk factors</u> : drug use, low body mass, mental illness, asthma, heart conditions, pregnancy, language barriers, and more	Health conditions not always visible. Low BMI? Pregnancy?	8
	Tasers are functionally <u>unreliable</u> , heightening unpredictability, confusion with gun by muscle memory	Bar association: 40% efficacy, Reuters. Frequently fail, prone to police error. Officer in Houston suing because her taser didn't work & she was injured. Less volts = safer but less effective (47%)	8
	<i>Situational training required, i.e. how to respond in context of meth PCP, mind-altering substance, help & training for police with PTSD</i>		0
<i>Ethics</i>	<u>Unclear guidelines & definition</u> of usage, force & <u>accountability</u>	Sheriff Dept. has no oversight. More rigorous use of force policy, no abuse of power. When Taser vs. gun? Each use should be reviewed. No trials for cops who have shot people. CA has some of the strongest police protection. Officer who shot Oscar Grant - Involuntary manslaughter, 1 year -Jessica Nelson Williams, Nicholas McWhorter, Alex Nieto	10

Central theme:	Content:	Specific comments:	Occurrence of content:
	<u>Conflict of interest</u>	SF has precedent to reject	1
	<u>Research validity & reliability</u>	Many Taser-funded studies pro-taser. Stanford meta-study. 'Axon cannot be trusted w/ statistics & training. They knew as early as 2005 that Tasers could lead to heart attacks & suppressed this info. - Documentary: Killing Them Safely.'	4
	Tasers have been associated with <u>torture, cruel & unusual</u>	UN panel on torture	1
<i>Signaling & Communication</i>	Tasers are <u>not replacing guns</u> - representing increase in weaponry	No evidences that TASER replaces gun use. In fact, want fewer guns.	6
	We need <u>commissioner</u> to hear these thoughts		1
	Concern that tasers will be <u>disproportionately used to target people of color, homeless community</u>	Being 'okay with young black men rather being tasered than shot' represents coded bias language & thinking. Officers pointed gun 3,100 times over last 6 months, half of them at Black people. Racial bias - 21% African American tased. Children experience PD racial tension	8
	Preexisting <u>lost of trust</u> with use of force, guns, etc.	Seeking Community Policing. No justice for past murders. Cops violent with Mission youth. Systemic problems, institutional racism. Moving in wrong direction. Commissioner doesn't want what community wants. Need more transparency. Trauma.	12
	Sends a <u>negative / counterproductive message</u> to community of color & <u>community input</u>	Not what community is asking for. Change not entirely up to community. Community was informed after policy draft. What problem are they trying to solve?	6

Central theme:	Content:	Specific comments:	Occurrence of content:
	Focus should be on building community & outreach	Work with Young Women Freedom center, outreach, etc. What are police doing toward community building? Disconnect between police & communities most affected by use of force. 'De-escalation is a process and requires time to work on a whole culture shift. Tasers are a distraction.'	12
	<i>Focus on educating the public as to laws, police procedures, how police are trained</i>		0
<i>Financial Allocations</i>	High financial cost	\$20 million, rise in lawsuits v. city. Why no cost-benefit analysis?	4
	Increase funding & priority to police de-escalation & nonviolence & anti-bias training & policy	DOJ 272 Recommendations	5
	Community-preferred allocations : ed, tech, housing, homeless outreach, social workers, mental health, healthcare workers	Solve problem of criminalization through poverty	8
<i>Pro-taser comments / suggestions</i>	Possible prevent violent crimes	* When used to replace firearm	6
	Research based	Invented by NASA engineer	1
	Cops need more options, less lethal	dept. stimulation session. compare lethality to bullet or nightstick, less lethal	6
	*Supplement TASERS with training	AED guidelines needed, slow process down, 40+ hrs. of CIT training every 2 years	5
	<i>Better means of control than gun</i>		0
	No reason given, or concern for personal safety		1
	SFSD & BART already use, Oakland is against use		1

Central theme:	Content:	Specific comments:	Occurrence of content:
<i>Other</i>	*Postpone decision		3
	Irresponsible to use less than lethal in certain situations		1
	-Only other option is sometimes guns?		1
	SFUSD should NOT be involved in forums		1
	<i>Want to hear officers' opinions on tasers</i>		
	<i>How taser (CED) would be used in Charlottesville incident?</i>		
	<i>Pedestrians should also be allowed to protect themselves</i>		
	<i>How often do cops come in contact with a life or death situation?</i>		
	<i>What type of taser?</i>		
	<i>Will first aid/hospital care be provided after tasing?</i>		
	<i>More beat officers instead?</i>		

Central theme:	Content:	Specific comments:	Occurrence of content:	Occurrences tracked from ages (16-24)
<i>Community Safety</i>	What about de-escalation techniques, trainings & policy (CIT) that may decrease use of force?	Police should be trained to protect themselves & others. Should be "in array of pepper spray, baton, taser -3 pulls 15 sec/ Life has to be threaten or life of someone else -Have to justify uses of taser (each pull) -Taser when safety off camera is activated -Weak hand side to avoid certain situations "I want police training on destressing"	7	4
	Tasers have significant injury & death rate	Harm to brain & body - why not bean bags, etc?	2	3
	Does not promote safety/ can escalate or compliance, or reduce death rate	"What is the purpose when they don't use the tools other than guns...?"		2
	Compounding Taser risk factors: drug use, low body mass, mental illness, asthma, heart conditions, pregnancy, language barriers, and more	Proper Use or Terms of Use -Pregnant -Disabled -Elderly -Mental health -pacemakers - voltage? - body size? Long term affects?	3	4
	Tasers are functionally unreliable , heightening unpredictability, confusion with gun by muscle memory	Taser design: "If tasers are allowed the taser should have a 5 sec. Timer on it. After the five seconds it should stop."	1	5
	Situational training required , i.e. how to respond in context of meth PCP, mind-altering substance, help & training for police with PTSD		2	1

<i>Ethics</i>	<u>Unclear guidelines & definition</u> of usage, force & <u>accountability</u>	"Taser used more frequently; not much of consequence" for use. "Have a good policy. Limits of use?" "How could you be sure the CED's wouldn't be used a lot more often?" .. "police officer will take advantage of this option." ... "CEDs can be pushed as safer alternatives from guns; this means they could be used with very little restraint."	2	12
	<u>Conflict of interest</u>			
	<u>Research validity & reliability</u>	Data could be skewed. Need to reassess. More trials. How & how?	3	1
	Tasers have been associated with <u>torture, cruel & unusual</u>			
<i>Signaling & Communication</i>	Tasers are <u>not replacing guns</u> - representing increase in weaponry	"Police trained to kill; taser doesn't matter" - "too much equipment" .. "will they replace it with other tool?"	1	7
	We need <u>commissioner</u> to hear these thoughts		1	
	Concern that tasers will be <u>disproportionately used to target people of color, homeless community</u>	Why are police quicker to use guns in A. A. neighborhoods? This must be tracked and evaluated. "Why are white people so quick to knock black people off the map?"	2	3
	Preexisting <u>lost of trust</u> with use of force, guns, etc.	"Laws/rules/regulations will not change the hearts and minds that are instilled with ignorance and fear."		2
	Sends a <u>negative / counterproductive message</u> to community of color & <u>community input</u>	"an excuse." ... "why now?" ... "what's the goal? What's the point?" Probably going to still use the gun anyways." Our opinions don't matter	2	6

	Focus should be on building community & outreach	"They serve the community. They need to have a voice in these community to explain the situations" ... "Why do police officers focus on protecting themselves and not the community?"		3
	<i>Focus on educating the public as to laws, police procedures, how police are trained</i>	"Show police training to community"	2	
<i>Financial Allocations</i>	High financial cost		1	
	Increase funding & priority to police de-escalation & nonviolence & anti-bias training & policy			
	Community-preferred allocations : ed, tech, housing, homeless outreach, social workers, mental health, healthcare workers			
<i>Pro-taser comments / suggestions</i>	Possible prevent violent crimes, <i>ie. Mario Woods</i>	<i>ie. Mario Woods</i>	1	
	Research based			
	Cops need more options, less lethal - <i>tasers instead of guns</i>	"Better to be tased than shot" ... "minimize loss of life" ... "Taser me, please don't shoot me." ...	4	13
	<i>Better means of control than gun</i>	"better way to gain control than gun", taser collects info on user & target		2
	*Supplement TASERS with training			3
	No reason given, or concern for personal safety			3
	SFSD & BART already use, Oakland is against use			
<i>Other</i>	*Postpone decision			
	Irresponsible to use less than lethal in certain situations			
	-Only other option is sometimes guns?			
	SFUSD should NOT be involved in forums			

	<i>Want to hear officers' opinions on tasers</i>		1	1
	<i>How taser (CED) would be used in Charlottesville incident?</i>	In big crowds? for deescalation?	1	1
	<i>Pedestrians should also be allowed to protect themselves</i>			1
	<i>How often do cops come in contact with a life or death situation?</i>			1
	<i>What type of taser?</i>			
	<i>Will first aid/hospital care be provided after tasing?</i>			2
	<i>More beat officers instead?</i>			1

Central theme:	Content:	Specific comments:	Occurrence of content:
<i>Community Safety</i>	What about de-escalation techniques, trainings & policy (CIT) that may decrease use of force?	There are other ways to deal w/ people	2
	Situational training required , i.e. how to respond in context of meth PCP, mind-altering substance, help & training for police with PTSD		
	Tasers have significant injury & death rate		
	Does not promote safety/ can escalate or compliance, or reduce death rate	"When 1 officers pulls a gun or taser all pull on!"	1
	Compounding Taser risk factors : drug use, low body mass, mental illness, asthma, heart conditions, pregnancy, language barriers, and more	*Mental illness = Higher risk of dying from tasers -> Pregnancy ->Heart disease	1
	Tasers are functionally unreliable , heightening unpredictability, confusion with gun by muscle memory		3
<i>Ethics</i>	Unclear guidelines & definition of usage, force & accountability		1
	Conflict of interest		
	Research validity & reliability		
	Tasers have been associated with torture, cruel & unusual, or excessive force	Excessive use of force	1
<i>Signaling & Communication</i>	Tasers are not replacing guns - representing increase in weaponry		1
	We need commissioner to hear these thoughts		
	Concern that tasers will be disproportionately used to target people of color, homeless community	"we are always suspect" ... "They will use them where they are always over policing"	3

Central theme:	Content:	Specific comments:	Occurrence of content:
	Preexisting lost of trust with use of force, guns, etc.	"Officers don't know how to approach Blacks specifically men." ... "Tasers are to try & pacify the the community because the baston looks too violent on camera."	4
	Sends a negative / counterproductive message to community of color & community input		
	Focus should be on building community & outreach	"Knowing the city ≠ serving the city" ... "The approach on dealing w/ community is everything." ... "Officers should be mandated to build relationship w/ community"	5
	<i>Focus on educating the public as to laws, police procedures, how police are trained</i>		
<i>Financial Allocations</i>	High financial cost		
	Increase funding & priority to police de-escalation & nonviolence & anti-bias training & policy		
	Community-prefered allocations : ed, tech, housing, homeless outreach, social workers, mental health, healthcare workers		
<i>Pro-taser comments / suggestions</i>	Possible prevent violent crimes, <i>ie. Mario Woods</i>	"Would tasers have saved Mario Woods?"	1
	Research based		
	Cops need more options, less lethal - <i>tasers instead of guns</i>		
	<i>Better means of control than gun</i>		
	*Supplement TASERS with training		

Central theme:	Content:	Specific comments:	Occurrence of content:
	No reason given, or concern for personal safety		
	SFSD & BART already use, Oakland is against use		
<i>Other</i>	*Postpone decision		
	Irresponsible to use less than lethal in certain situations		
	-Only other option is sometimes guns?		
	SFUSD should NOT be involved in forums		
	<i>Want to hear officers' opinions on tasers</i>		
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	<i>More beat officers instead?</i>		

Central theme:	Content:	Specific comments:	Occurrence of content:
<i>Community Safety</i>	What about <u>de-escalation techniques, trainings & policy</u> (CIT) that may decrease use of force?		
	<i>Situational training required</i> , i.e. how to respond in context of meth PCP, mind-altering substance, help & training for police with PTSD		
	Tasers have significant <u>injury & death rate</u>	dangerous, can cause injury/be fatal	3
	<u>Does not promote safety/ can escalate</u> or compliance, or reduce death rate		1
	Compounding Taser <u>risk factors</u> : drug use, low body mass, mental illness, asthma, heart conditions, pregnancy, language barriers, and more		
	Tasers are functionally <u>unreliable</u> , heightening unpredictability, confusion with gun by muscle memory	Make sure it doesn't look like a gun	1
<i>Ethics</i>	<u>Unclear guidelines & definition</u> of usage, force & <u>accountability</u>		
	<u>Conflict of interest</u>		
	<u>Research validity & reliability</u>		
	Tasers have been associated with <u>torture, cruel & unusual, or excessive force</u>		
<i>Signaling & Communication</i>	Tasers are <u>not replacing guns</u> - representing increase in weaponry	There are enough weapons to use against US.	1
	We need <u>commissioner</u> to hear these thoughts		
	Concern that tasers will be <u>disproportionately used to target people of color, homeless community</u>		
	Preexisting <u>lost of trust</u> with use of force, guns, etc.		

Central theme:	Content:	Specific comments:	Occurrence of content:
	Sends a <u>negative / counterproductive message</u> to community of color & <u>community input</u>		
	Focus should be on <u>building community & outreach</u>	There needs to be cultural awareness training.	1
	<i>Focus on <u>educating the public</u> as to laws, police procedures, how police are trained</i>		
<i>Financial Allocations</i>	High financial <u>cost</u>		
	Increase funding & <u>priority</u> to police <u>de-escalation</u> & nonviolence & <u>anti-bias</u> training & policy		
	Community-preferred <u>allocations</u> : ed, tech, housing, homeless outreach, social workers, mental health, healthcare workers		
<i>Pro-taser comments / suggestions</i>	Possible prevent violent crimes, <i>ie. Mario Woods</i>	Protect people in danger, good if used for protection	2
	Research based		
	Cops need more options, less lethal - <i>tasers instead of guns</i>	*1 former police	3
	<i>Better means of control than gun</i>		1
	*Supplement TASERS with training		
	No reason given, or concern for personal safety		1
	SFSD & BART already use, Oakland is against use		
<i>Other</i>	*Postpone decision		
	Irresponsible to use less than lethal in certain situations		
	-Only other option is sometimes guns?		

Central theme:	Content:	Specific comments:	Occurrence of content:
	SFUSD should NOT be involved in forums		
	<i>Want to hear officers' opinions on tasers</i>		
	<i>How taser (CED) would be used in Charlottesville incident?</i>		
	<i>Pedestrians should also be allowed to protect themselves</i>		
	<i>How often do cops come in contact with a life or death situation?</i>		
	<i>What type of taser?</i>		
	<i>Will first aid/hospital care be provided after tasing?</i>		
	<i>More beat officers instead?</i>		