



To: Harris County Commissioner's Court
From: Jennifer Hadayia, Executive Director at Air Alliance Houston
Date: February 8, 2022

Subject: Investments in Harris County Pollution Control

My name is Jennifer Hadayia, and I am the Executive Director of Air Alliance Houston. Our mission is to reduce health impacts of air pollution.

I am here to urge members of the Court to reject the proposed cuts to Harris County Pollution Control contained in the Ramsey Proposal.

I fully understand that difficult decisions must be made today, but I urge you to reconsider making them at the expense of air quality.

As an example, just yesterday, we had a flare event at a refinery in Manchester. During an event like this, it's impossible to know what contaminants are flowing into the air – the facility doesn't tell us. But Pollution Control was there on-site monitoring the air for us in real time.

Unfortunately, the reductions proposed today are not only to pollution control, but also to library services, community services, and to public health while we are still in a pandemic. There's no doubt in my mind that defunding social services like this will have long-term impacts.

I urge you to consider a more balanced proposal that doesn't put our health, opportunity, housing, and clean air, at risk.

Thank you.