

Seattle Voices: Aaron Roberts

Item 8145

Speaker Reverend Robert Jeffery (New Hope Missionary Baptist Church)

Rev. Robert Jeffery: Second thing is that we need an elected independent review board.

[members of the audience clap and cheer]

Rev. Robert Jeffery: Now, somebody said, "well, we have an elected City Council and look what that gave us." And I want to thank the City Council members for coming and I want to thank them for being here, I think that it's great for them to be here. But let me tell you something. I am not--I am tired of brown-nosing. I'm tired of being afraid. I'm tired of when I go down the street seeing things wrong and not being able to say it because I might hurt somebody's feelings.

[members of the audience clap and cheer]

Rev. Robert Jeffery: There is too much going on in this city and I appreciate you coming out, but what you gave us after our blood, sweat and tears in the last round was just not good enough. We need an elected civilian review board with 2/3 of the people coming from the areas that the police are targeting. Coming from the areas where the incidents happen. And then the other areas can have the rest.

[members of the audience clap and cheer]

Rev. Robert Jeffery: Alright, it's what the People's Coalition for Justice demands. The second--the last thing I want to say, is that we want an agreement with the City to sit down and work on an economic plan with the community, with the people in this room, who are community, with the people around this--this--these seats--and any of you can come up and sit in these seats, if you want to be part of those negotiations, to negotiate an economic plan to stop our own people from being ripped off and kicked to the curb after they have built their homes and lived in their homes and paid taxes and lived law-abiding citizen. We are tired of our own people crying in the night because Urban Development wants to build these shabby, little houses in our community! We will take our community back!

[members of the audience clap and cheer]