

Interim Police Chief's Vehicle Stops Committee
Data Subcommittee Minutes: DRAFT
May 29, 2019
Conference Room 1A, City Hall

Members Present: Pamela Hardin, Don Love, Eric Parsons, Jerome Sally

Members Absent: Tara Warne-Griggs

Others Present: CPD Crime Analyst Jerry East; Toni Messina, City Staff Liaison

The meeting came to order at 1 p.m. A quorum was established.

Agenda

Toni Messina provided an agenda for subcommittee members. Pamela Hardin motion and Jerome Sally second to approve the agenda as submitted with understanding that the subcommittee will create its own agendas in the future. Motion passed unanimously.

Subcommittee Checklist

Members considered the checklist that Toni provided. Don Love motion and Jerome second to elect Eric Parsons as subcommittee chair. Motion passed unanimously. Eric presided over the rest of the meeting.

Subcommittee Role

Members discussed their understanding of the expectations of the full Vehicle Stops Committee: subcommittee is helping the full Committee get started on its review of the data – providing a guide to the data in as simple a form as possible, with the ability to revisit issues as questions arise – sharing data, but not opinions, which is the role of the full Committee

Members reviewed and discussed data analyses prepared by Don and by Jeff Milyo, expressing several views.

- Disparities in traffic stops don't necessarily indicate racial bias but can alert you to a problem
- Disparities can be affected by stops based on facts; economic factors; geographic location; time of day; behaviors and emotions of officers and drivers; officer discretion; police practices, such as seeking a driver's consent; population trends; officer training and accountability; police department directives
- In addition to looking at stops and their legitimacy, there is value in looking at what happens after a stop – there can be confrontations and arrests – there may or may not be attempts to de-escalate – does an interaction go beyond the reason for the stop
- It may be possible to look back at specific incidents, see video, interview drivers
- It will be helpful to subject 2018 Columbia data to Don's and Jeff Milyo's analytical methods used in previous years

Members identified some steps for addressing questions associated with the data

- Looking at crucial categories, such as arrests
- Presenting data analyses to the full Committee over the next three months, starting with Don, Eric and Tara
- Identifying a concern; existing data associated with the concern; digging deeply into it to identify other information needed now or in the future; determining if officers acted on accepted facts that can be documented; learning what actions supervisors are checking, and how often
- Writing down questions, searching data and determining what questions still are pending

Orientation and Study Plan Recommended for Full Committee

Pamela motion and Don second to recommend sharing vehicle stop data and analysis with the full Committee as follows: Don presents June 11; Eric presents July 9; and Tara (if she agrees) presents August 13. Motion passed unanimously.

General Comments by Public, Members and Staff

- Martin Hardin – The Chief is trying to bring a more perfect union to Columbia through this process – the local data are very visual...what the public looks at – it may be that officers are coming up with a probable cause as a reason to pull people over – he's not pulled over as often as he was when he was younger, but the level of frustration in older black men who have had this experience is high

Next Regular Meeting Date – To Be Determined**Adjournment**

Pamela motion and Jerome second to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned.

DRAFT