

Interim Police Chief's Vehicle Stops Committee
Data Subcommittee Minutes: DRAFT
October 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

Eric called the meeting to order at 3 p.m. A quorum was established.

Agenda

Eric motion and Don second to amend the agenda, moving item IV (debriefing) from its current place to a place after item VI (update...data analysis). Motion passed unanimously.

Don motion and Jerome second to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

Don motion and Jerome second to approve the May 29, 2019 minutes as submitted. Motion passed unanimously. (Note: minutes mistakenly labeled "May 14" in the agenda for this meeting.)

Update on progress of veil of darkness and search hit rate analysis through 2018: additional data requests

One of Eric's students is working on replicating Dr. Milyo's "veil of darkness" analysis with 2018 data, eventually looking at the trend for 2016 – 2018. This may be available for the full Committee's November 12 meeting.

Eric would like to update the Milyo study with, eventually, 2019 and 2020 data to see if CPD's revised Policy 500 (traffic enforcement) is reflected in the data. Jerry said that, although it's possible to pull 2019 data, it will be more complete if we wait until the end of this year. Raw Columbia data should be available in January 2020.

Although it may be helpful to compare vehicle stop data to calls for service, CPD currently cannot identify that connection in its records system. The full Committee may wish to discuss making this part of investigative stop data collection. Members discussed emphasis on and connections between data analysis v. consideration of policing practices and policies. Eric motion and Jerome second to use the complete 2019 data set for further analysis, rather than using a partial year. Motion passed unanimously,

Update on progress of veil of darkness and search hit rate analysis through 2018: additional data analysis

Dr. Milyo met with the Missouri Attorney General's office staff regarding state data collection updates. Eric will provide this information so Toni can send it to all Committee members. Don has been working with the Attorney General's staff and supports the new additions.

Eric motion and Jerome second to 1) move the list of data additions and the Attorney General's additions to the Nov. 12 full Committee meeting; and 2) request 2018 and available 2019 call data from CPD. Motion passed unanimously.

With Eric's early departure, Don assumed the chair's duties.

Members discussed CPD's revised Policy 500. It emphasizes fact-based reasons for conducting traffic stops holds supervisors accountable for the performance of officers making stops. Comments are summarized below.

- Concerned that when an officer makes a stop based on "the look," other personal factors may be in play
- Community wants accountability and is looking for change – some officer names keep coming up
- Identify where data indicate significant disproportions against black drivers, consider driver and officer behavior – train officers to handle stops consistently and appropriately
- Chief said to bring information to him when we're aware of officer behavior that raises questions – ask him to provide answers
- CPD has a bias-free policing policy that applies to all employees, not just officers

- Many in the community believe officers have a code of silence and won't complain about each other – current process to complain about an officer may make people uncomfortable or be inconvenient – can officers provide forms for drivers to complete during a stop and then turn it over to someone who will contact the driver – could include this in subcommittee's report to full Committee

Debrief of recent presentation in Columbia

Don shared some information from his Oct. 21 presentation at Columbia Public Library, focusing on incident-based contraband disproportions. Addressing specific parts of vehicle stop data can lead to policy recommendations.

General Comments by Public, Members and Staff

No comments.

Next Regular Meeting Date – To Be Determined

Adjournment

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

DRAFT