

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at NCsupport@lacity.org.

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

Contact Information

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(15) Nay(2) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 07/20/2021

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 08/21/2021

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 20-0875

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The Los Feliz Neighborhood Council supports this motion and seeks that the City and the City Council move swiftly and boldly to return this report and take action to find an alternative to law enforcement traffic response. [PLEASE SEE ATTACHED .PDF FOR FULL CIS]



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SECRETARY
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- COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT -
Council File: 20-0875

Title: Transportation Policy Objectives / Alternative Models and Methods / Unarmed Law Enforcement

Position: Support

Summary:

The Los Feliz Neighborhood Council supports this motion and seeks that the City and the City Council move swiftly and boldly to return this report and take action to find an alternative to law enforcement traffic response.

We know that traffic stops by armed police do little to keep communities safe and disproportionately affect Black and Latino drivers. A recent report by Advancement Project California's RACE COUNTS and Push LA found that Black drivers in Los Angeles are five times more likely to be pulled over by police and nine times more likely to be arrested for traffic violations than white drivers. Latinos are 1.6 times more likely than white people to be stopped while driving and 3.5 times more likely to be arrested for a traffic violation.

Push LA's report found that "while Black people make up less than 9% of the city's population, they accounted for 27% of the LAPD's traffic stops...Meanwhile, white people made up only 18% of traffic stops, despite the city's population being 28.5% white." This level of bias is unacceptable and requires bold action to remedy. Pretextual stops are also of major concern. All too often, minor traffic infractions are used by police to investigate crimes without sufficient evidence. Black and Latino drivers are disproportionately affected by these stops which often lead to harassment, trauma and unjustified uses of force. Data also shows these stops are ineffective in actually finding evidence of crime.

This data is troubling but not surprising. LAPD's history of racial profiling is well known and widely documented. It is not limited to traffic stops, but as the report notes "LAPD officers spend a significant amount of time on stops for traffic violations—totaling 183,616.3 hours on stops for traffic violations between January and September 2019." LAPD was found to spend more time on traffic stops involving Black and Latino drivers than with Whites. It stands to reason that we can see traffic stops as one of the main arenas in which racial profiling occurs.

It is for these reasons that we urge the Council to expedite their report and take concrete steps towards ending police involvement in traffic violations. We further urge the Council to consider adopting the recommendations put forth by Push LA, namely ending pretextual stops and banning vehicle consent searches.

We hope the City Council will act with the urgency needed to address this issue and create a safer and equitable Los Angeles.

-APPROVED-

July 20th, 2021

Yay: 15. Nay: 2