

## CPRB Ad Hoc Committee Meeting to Discuss Pre-Text Stops

Wednesday April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 11:00 am.

San Leandro Police Department

Good afternoon, Chief. Today, we're here to discuss a critical aspect of policing that has significant implications for community trust and public safety: pretextual traffic stops. As you're aware, our San Leandro Police Review Board Ad Hoc Committee has been reviewing police policy on this matter, particularly in light of the recent RIPA data that highlights substantial racial disparities.

The data shows that in 2022, over 4.5 million stops were conducted by 535 agencies in California, with Black individuals being stopped 131.5% more frequently than expected, given their proportion of the population. Moreover, the majority of stops were for traffic violations, which raises questions about the effectiveness and fairness of these stops.

Our review board has been exploring alternative approaches to pretextual stops, including the policies implemented by the Los Angeles Police Department and the state of Virginia. The LAPD's new policy, which restricts traffic stops to only those that significantly interfere with public safety or involve suspicion of a serious crime, has shown promising results. According to the data, this policy has led to an overall reduction in stops and searches, a slight increase in discovery rates, and a decrease in disparities in stops involving Black individuals.

Similarly, Virginia's primary and secondary traffic enforcement system has contributed to a reduction in stops and searches, although disparities persist. These findings suggest that rethinking our approach to pretextual stops can have a positive impact on community policing and public safety.

As we move forward, I'd like to discuss the potential implications of adopting a similar policy in our department. Some key questions to consider include: How can we balance the need for public safety with the need to reduce unnecessary stops and searches? What role should data play in informing our policy decisions? And how can we ensure that our policies are fair, equitable, and respectful of all members of our community?

Our San Leandro Police Review Board Ad Hoc Committee is eager to hear your thoughts on these matters and to work together to find solutions that benefit everyone. The goal is to build trust, improve relationships, and enhance public safety, while also ensuring that our policies are effective and just. Let's start the conversation.