

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: The Racial and Identity Profiling Act (RIPA) was formed as part of California's AB953. At the direction of the Legislature, RIPA's charge is to eliminate racial and identity profiling, and improve diversity and racial and identity sensitivity in law enforcement. The California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, has the primary oversight of the RIPA Board. Beginning July 1, 2018, law enforcement agencies began collecting data on stops and reporting the information to the Department of Justice. The law requires "each state and local agency that employs peace officers to annually report to the Attorney General data on all stops, as defined, conducted by the agency's peace officers, and require that data to include specified information, including the time, date, and location of the stop, and the reason for the stop. The bill would require an agency that employs 1,000 or more peace officers to issue its first annual report by April 1, 2019. " Given that we are in Los Angeles with more the 1,000 police officers, the report was due last year. The data in the 2020 RIPA Annual Report provides a disproportionate number of traffic stops on the Black community as compared to the White. According to the collected data, 57% of the stops in California collected from July 1, 2018 and December 31, 2018 were by the California Highway Patrol, and 19% were from the LA police department. Of those stopped, 95.3% were officer initiated, 39.8% were of the Hispanic population, 33% White, and 15.2% were Black. The most commonly reported reason for a stop across all racial/ethnic groups was traffic violations, followed by reasonable suspicion. A higher percentage of Black individuals were stopped for reasonable suspicion than any other racial identity group. Through comparisons of data, it was determined that Black individuals represented a higher proportion of stopped individuals than their relative proportion of the population in both datasets. In another category of dataset, it was proven that officers searched Black individuals at a rate 2.9 times the rate they searched White individuals. The disproportionate number of traffic stops and arrests on the Black communities as compared to White communities is staggering. In order for the Los Angeles' City Council to effectively manifest the racial justice that we desperately need, drastic measures must be taken. One place to start is by collecting data by police departments and holding them

accountable to report to RIPA and the Department of Justice as mandated by the law. Please consider communicating with the DOT, DOJ, and LAPD, joining them together so that they can collaborate and ensure that traffic objectives and racial equality objectives are collaborative and promote safety for all community members.