



February 2, 2021

Los Angeles City Council President Nury Martinez
200 North Spring Street, Suite 470
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Council File Number 20-0875 Transportation Policy Objectives/Alternative Models and Methods/Unarmed Law Enforcement

Dear Honorable Council President Martinez and LA City Council Members,

Today as you probably know is Groundhog Day. If you've seen that movie with Bill Murray, you know that it's about the same day happening over and over and over again.

Well, when it happened to Bill Murray, it was funny. But in real life, it is not. The same day happens over and over and over again to Black & Brown drivers across this city who experience trauma, humiliation, abuse and violence --up to the point of death in some cases-- at the hands of the police during traffic stops.

Take the example of Bryant M., a Black husband and father of three who was pulled over for a moving violation while driving to the grocery store. He was forcibly removed from his vehicle, thrown to the ground, and handcuffed while his wife and children watched in horror. The officer said he suspected drugs and guns, items which were never found. Bryant and so many others who experience this racial violence each day don't have time to wait.

We were hopeful when this [motion](#) to report on alternative models and methods that do not rely on armed law enforcement to achieve transportation policy objectives was [first introduced](#) on June 30, 2020. Now, more than [seven months later](#), we are beyond frustrated by the Council's inaction on a motion that could help address the scourge of state violence on Black and Brown communities.

Our people require URGENT ACTION by their City Council. **We demand that this motion be agendized for a vote by the full Council so the mandated action can begin instead of being sent to yet another committee.** The motion already passed in the Ad Hoc Committee on Police Reform on October 23, 2020.

Our request comes on the heels of a recent report by the [Inspector General](#) relative to the Review of Stops Conducted by LAPD in 2019 that confirms racial disparities in the practices and patterns of the department's use of pretextual stops and searches.

With hope,

Advancement Project CA, John Kim
ACLU SoCal, Peter Bibring
Black Lives Matter-LA, Melina Abdullah
Brotherhood Crusade, Charisse Bremond
Brothers Sons Selves, David Turner
Children's Defense Fund-CA, Shimica Gaskins
CHIRLA, Angelica Salas
Community Coalition, Alberto Retana
Labor/Community Strategy Center, Eric Mann
LA Voice, Rev. Zachary Hoover
Million Dollar Hoods, Dr. Kelly Lytle Hernandez
SEIU 2015, April Verrett
SEIU 99, Max Arias
Southern Christian Leadership Conference SoCal, Pastor William Smart