

Background

In late 2021, Lisa Jackson, chair of the Independent Community Police Oversight Commission (ICPOC), reached out to the chairs of the Human Rights Commission (HRC) and Transportation Commission to collaborate on an effort to bring forward some recommendations regarding traffic enforcement. Representatives from all three commissions met in December 2021 and January 2022 to discuss the need for more transparency in traffic stop data, and we worked collaboratively to develop a joint resolution that all three commissions would consider and vote on in March.

Each commission has tailored the whereas clauses to reflect their specific mission and role, while the resolved clauses are the same in each commission's resolution. The aim is for all three commissions to be making the same request. The requests in the resolved clauses are based on national best practices for traffic stop data collection and analysis. If all three commissions pass this resolution, we will then communicate it to City Council with a request that Council implement the recommended policies regarding traffic stop data collection and transparency.

Rationale

The Transportation Commission relies on data to understand traffic patterns throughout the city, including traffic levels, usage rates for pedestrian and bike facilities, and crash locations and conditions. Given our focus on safety, it would be valuable to have traffic stop data to help us understand both patterns related to traffic violations and the role that enforcement plays in addressing violations. Furthermore, given our responsibility to support equity in Ann Arbor's transportation system, it is relevant for TC to be able to understand potential biases in how traffic policies are both implemented and enforced. Therefore, I believe that partnering with ICPOC and HRC in requesting greater transparency in traffic stop data will help bring us closer to our goals of a safe and equitable transportation system in the City of Ann Arbor.

Traffic Stop Transparency Resolution

Whereas, the City of Ann Arbor has charged the Transportation Commission with advising the City Council and the City Administrator on transportation policy with a focus on accessibility, mobility, equity, and safety for all;

Whereas, car crashes remain a leading cause of death in the United States across all age groups, with speed and distracted driving being major contributors to the rising death toll;

Whereas, the transparency of traffic stop data can provide the Ann Arbor community with essential information about transportation safety, including problem locations, enforcement practices, and potential bias in how traffic policies are implemented and/or enforced;

RESOLVED, the Transportation Commission requests an ordinance be developed to require the AAPD to collect the following data on the traffic stops that are conducted in the city of Ann Arbor:

- The date, time, duration and GIS location of all stops
- The area to which the police officer was assigned at the time of the stop
- The reason for the stop
- The year, make and model of the vehicle
- The driver's perceived ethnicity and gender identity
- The number and ethnicity of passengers, if any
- Any police action taken, including but not limited to whether a warning or citation was issued
- Specific citations, if issued
- Whether any occupant was frisked or searched
- Whether the vehicle was frisked or searched
- Whether consent to search was sought, and if so, whether it was provided
- Whether any occupant was arrested, and if so, any and all charges
- Whether the vehicle stop resulted in recovery of contraband, delineated by specific type
- A unique identifying number of the officer
- Any other relevant information necessary for effective monitoring and oversight of traffic stops.
- The Ann Arbor police department shall not report the name, address, social security number, driver's license number or other unique personal identifying information of persons stopped, searched, or subjected to a property seizure, for purposes of this section.
- Notwithstanding any other law, the data reported shall be available to the public.

RESOLVED, that the data be housed in an electronic database that will make it easy to retrieve digitized, non-confidential information for all vehicle stops and that this database be made accessible for analysis;

RESOLVED, that the AAPD develop procedures and policies to reasonably ensure that information in the database is complete and accurate.

RESOLVED, that the AAPD regularly collaborate with the Independent Community Police Oversight Commission to ensure nationally recognized best practices are implemented to mitigate bias and disparity in vehicle stops and in the use of evolving technologies that may perpetuate racial bias.

RESOLVED, that the AAPD transmit an annual report detailing AAPD enforcement of such an ordinance and identifying any best-practices policy changes that were implemented over the preceding year to the Chairs of the Independent Community Police Oversight Commission, the Human Rights Commission and the Transportation Commission.