



Meeting of the City of Sacramento Community Racial Profiling Commission



SUMMARY

Thursday, November 20, 2008

Public Safety Center - 5770 Freeport Boulevard - Hall of Honor

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Brian Louie
Alani Cridge
John Floyd
Sean Coletta
Renee Carter

Francine Tournour
Walter Kawamoto
Ashiya Odeye
Vacant
Crystal Taylor, Chair

Brent Meyer
Vacant
Julia Vera
Danette Brown
Ernest Carter

CITY STAFF:

*Brian Louie, Deputy Chief
Katherine Lester, Lieutenant
Helga Sprung, Administrative Analyst*

The Community Racial Profiling Commission is a board of the City Council whose purpose is to provide recommendations to the Council concerning racially biased policing.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

You are welcomed and encouraged to participate in this meeting. Public comment is taken (3 minutes maximum) on items listed on the agenda when they are called. Public Comment on items not listed on the agenda will be heard at the end of the meeting as noted on the agenda. Comments on controversial items may be limited and large groups are encouraged to select 3-5 speakers to represent the opinion of the group.

Notice to Lobbyists: When addressing the Commission you must identify yourself as a lobbyist and announce the client/business/organization you are representing (City Code 2.15.160).

Speaker slips are located on the table and should be completed and submitted to the Commission Clerk.

Government Code 54950 (The Brown Act) requires that a brief description of each item to be transacted or discussed be posted at least 72 hours prior to a regular meeting. The City posts Agendas at City Hall as well as offsite meeting locations.

The order of Agenda items are listed for reference and may be taken in any order deemed appropriate by the Commission. The Agenda provides a general description and staff recommendations; however, the Commission may take action other than what is recommended. The Agenda is available for public review at least three calendar days prior to the meeting. Hard copies are available from the Police Department (10 cents per page),

Meeting facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. If you require special assistance to participate in the meeting, notify the Police Department at (916) 808-0864 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

SUMMARY

November 20, 2008

*Public Safety Center
5770 Freeport Blvd., Hall of Honor*

All items listed are heard and acted upon by the Community Racial Profiling Commission unless otherwise noted.

Called to Order – 6:19 p.m.

Roll Call – Chair Crystal Taylor called a meeting of the Community Racial Profiling Commission (CRPC) to order at 6:19 p.m. Thursday, November 20, 2008 at the Public Safety Center Hall of Honor. Alani Cridge, Walter Kawamoto, Brent Meyer, and Julia Vera absent.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Crystal Taylor.

Discussion / Action Reports

Discussion and action reports include oral presentations including those recommending receive and file.

1. Update on Commission Membership

Location: (Citywide)

Recommendation: Receive and file.

Contact: Lt. Katherine Lester, (916) 808-0800, Police Department.

Action: Lt. Lester announced the November 18, 2008 appointment of Ashiya Odeye as Commission representative from District 5. Lt. Lester reported that applications from Districts 3, 4, 8, and At-Large were being reviewed and that the City Clerk would reopen the District 2 seat for applications.

2. Approval of Minutes for October 16, 2008

Location: (Citywide)

Recommendation: Approve minutes.

Contact: Helga Sprung, Administrative Analyst, (916) 808-0864, Police Department.

Action: Moved, seconded, carried (Brown/R. Carter; Absent – Cridge, Kawamoto, Meyer, Vera) to approve the minutes for October 16, 2008.

3. Approval of Commission's Second Quarterly Report to Council for 2008

Location: (Citywide)

Recommendation: Approve report.

Contact: Helga Sprung, Administrative Analyst, (916) 808-0864, Police Department.

Action: Moved, seconded, carried (E. Carter/R. Carter; Absent – Cridge, Kawamoto, Meyer, Vera) to approve the Second Quarterly Report to Council for 2008.

4. Approval of Commission’s Third Quarterly Report to Council for 2008

Location: (Citywide)

Recommendation: Approve report.

Contact: Helga Sprung, Administrative Analyst, (916) 808-0864, Police Department.

Action: Moved, seconded, carried (E. Carter/R. Carter; Absent – Cridge, Kawamoto, Meyer, Vera) to approve the Third Quarterly Report to Council for 2008.

5. Report on Technical Issues of Posting Videos of Stakeholder Meetings on City of Sacramento and/or CRPC Websites

Location: (Citywide)

Recommendation: Review and comment.

Contact: Lt. Katherine Lester, (916) 808-0800, Police Department.

Action: Lt. Lester reported that neither technical problems nor additional cost to the City would result from posting videos of the three CRPC-hosted Stakeholder Meetings, held on August 13, 14 and 15, 2009, on the Community Racial Profiling Commission website. The City Webmaster will post the videos of the three meetings that presented the results of the Lamberth Traffic Stop study to the community and included dialogue and question & answer sessions among all participants.

6. Discussion, Formulation and Approval of Commission Recommendations to Sacramento Police Department Related to Traffic Stop Study Report

Location: (Citywide)

Recommendation: Review and comment; approve.

Contact: Crystal Taylor, Commission Chair.

Action: Chair Crystal Taylor read the recommendations formulated at the October CRPC meeting and requested further discussion. Commission members moved, seconded, and carried (Floyd/Coletta; Absent – Cridge, Kawamoto, Meyer, Vera) to combine and refine their recommendations as follows:

- ❖ Recommended that the City of Sacramento rehire Lamberth Consulting to conduct an additional traffic stop study in four years’ time to give the Police Department sufficient time to implement recommendations;
- ❖ Recommended that City leadership, including the Police Department, address community perceptions that SPD has a systemic problem of making racially biased traffic stops through the implementation of recommendations by Lamberth Consulting and the CRPC; and
- ❖ Recommended that the Police Department review its current traffic stop policies and practices to include informing drivers the reasons for traffic stops and to reconsider and possibly alter their methods of asking whether drivers and/or passengers are on probation or parole.

While discussing Agenda item #7, Commission members moved, seconded, and carried (R. Carter/Tournour; Absent – Cridge, Kawamoto, Meyer, Vera) to include the following recommendation in Agenda item #6:

- ❖ Recommended that the City Council approve a resolution to refute and express zero tolerance for racial profiling.

7. Discussion of CRPC Strategies Regarding Implementation of Lamberth Recommendations

Location: (Citywide)

Recommendation: Review and comment.

Contact: Crystal Taylor, Commission Chair.

Action: Commission members:

- ❖ Recommended that law enforcement and the community participate in meetings modeled after the CRPC Stakeholder Meetings, including discussion of reasons for “heavy” or “light” police presence in areas of the city;
- ❖ Recommended that police officers be familiar with the areas they patrol;
- ❖ Requested reports on screening for bias in SPD recruiting standards and on SPD training on bias free policing;
- ❖ Recommended that SPD add an evaluation component to measure officers’ attitudes and practices regarding racial profiling;
- ❖ Asked if SPD is using Vehicle Stop Data Form data to find and discipline officers who are racially profiling. DC Louie reported that SPD uses an “early warning” system that identifies a developing pattern of allegations; and
- ❖ Requested and received information on SPD officers’ involvement with the community.

8. Discussion, Formulation, and Approval of Future Goals, Responsibilities and Scope of the CRPC

Location: (Citywide)

Recommendation: Review and comment; approve.

Contact: Crystal Taylor, Commission Chair.

Action: Commission members moved, seconded, carried (Coletta/Brown; Absent – Cridge, Kawamoto, Meyer, Vera) to continue the item to the December meeting.

9. Discussion of and Recommendation of General Order 210.05 – Bias Related Enforcement Actions

Location: (Citywide)

Recommendation: Review and comment.

Contact: Lt. Katherine Lester, (916) 808-0800, Police Department.

Action: Lt. Lester reported that:

- ❖ SPD is currently revising its General Order 210.05 on Bias Related Enforcement Actions as recommended in the Lamberth report;
- ❖ The draft is under review by SPD command staff;
- ❖ Chief Rick Braziel is soliciting CRPC member input; and
- ❖ The final draft will be shared with the CRPC before approval.

10. Discussion of Distribution of Documents and Information to Commission

Location: (Citywide)

Recommendation: Review and comment.

Contact: Crystal Taylor, Commission Chair.

Action: Chair Crystal Taylor struck the item from the agenda.

11. Nomination of Candidates for 2009 CRPC Chair

Location: (Citywide)

Recommendation: Review and comment.

Contact: Crystal Taylor, Commission Chair.

Action: Commission members nominated Sean Coletta (District 7) and Danette Brown (At-Large) for the position of 2009 CRPC Chair. Members will vote for the 2009 Chair at the December meeting.

12. Police Department Activities Influencing Study Data and Report of Compliance Statistics

Location: (Citywide)

Recommendation: Review and comment.

Contact: Deputy Chief Brian Louie, (916) 808-0800, Police Department.

Action: DC Louie reported that:

- ❖ The traffic stop form compliance rate is in the mid 90 percent range; and
- ❖ SPD is addressing an increase in armed robberies targeting cell phones occurring in the Natomas and Meadowview areas.

Public Comments- Matters Not on the Agenda

13. Public comments:

- ❖ Any analysis of traffic stop data should be performed by an independent person or agency;
- ❖ Determining whether a driver has probation or parole status is important to officer safety; and
- ❖ It is a condition of parole to admit to parole status and to report any stops by law enforcement to the parole agent.

Questions, Ideas, and Announcements of Commission Members

14. None.

Adjournment – 8:28 p.m.

Submitted,

Katherine Lester, Commission Clerk

Approved,

Crystal Taylor, Chair