

## **Policy Subcommittee Minutes**

Thursday, December 21, 2023

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Zoom

**Policy Subcommittee Present:** Tanya Hughes, Mike Gailor, Werner Oyanadel, Tamara Lanier, Claudine Constant, Darcy Strand, Chief Neil Dryfe, Cheryl Sharp, Stacey Sobel, Kelly Mero

**Staff:** Ken Barone, Erica Escobar

### I. Welcome & Introductions

Chair Hughes convened the meeting at 10:03 a.m. Members introduced themselves.

### II. Approval of the April 11, 2023, meeting minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the April 11, 2023, meeting minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

### I. New Business

#### a. Bills from 2023 legislative session for discussion

##### i. H.B. 6888- *An Act Concerning Juvenile Justice* (Pedestrian Data Collection)

Ken Barone briefed members on bills from the 2023 legislative session that did not pass but may have impacted the project. The first bill was one that would require the collection of pedestrian stop information. The bill proposes adding "pedestrian" after "traffic" to require police to collect data on both types of stops. The definition of a pedestrian stop was defined as the detention of a pedestrian by a police officer not associated with a call for service, and must result in a citation, arrest, or search of the person. The advisory board did not take a position on this last year.

Ken highlighted the proposal's origin from the Juvenile Justice Policy Oversight Council, expressing their concern about potential profiling of youth in locations where they may be walking and not driving. Chief

Dryfe mentioned that for most communities there would not be much data to collect, but this would impact the larger municipalities.

Tanya Hughes expressed concerns, noting that focusing solely on larger communities might overlook issues in smaller ones. Drawing from personal and family experiences, she emphasized that standing out and being targeted can happen in smaller communities too. Tanya acknowledged that these stops would occur far less frequently in smaller towns but believed that they should not be ruled out of the conversation.

Mike Gailor commented on the importance of defining a meaningful objective for the collection of this data. He thought there might be challenges for officers collecting pedestrian stop data, particularly during pedestrian-related activities without easy access to recording systems. Additionally, Kelly Mero raised the possibility of expanding the definitions of "pedestrian" and "call for service." Drawing from her personal experience in Hamden, she emphasized the ambiguity in incidents involving her sons. Kelly highlighted the potential for meaningful responses to improve community and police relations, underscoring the importance of considering the impact on families, even with limited data.

Highlighting the data's potential to influence police community engagement, Tamara Lanier suggested a conversation with the JJPOC to address the definition of pedestrians. Ken Barone highlighted the integration of pedestrian stop data in states like California, Oregon, and Illinois over the past three to five years. He proposed compiling definitions from these states, placing emphasis on gathering insights into California's data usage and effectiveness before forming a policy recommendation.

ii. *S.B. 1195- An Act Establishing Secondary Traffic Violations*

Ken Barone summarized the secondary stop bill that passed the Senate with some modifications but failed to receive a vote in the house. He recommended members examine the narrower Senate-passed proposal from last year. This process may enable the board to provide specific comments or maintain a neutral position on the bill.

Ken proposed dedicating time to review the window tint statute, with a focus on manufacturers' or third parties' obligations to not violate the law.

II. General Discussion

a. Other 2024 legislative priorities

- i. The Data Subcommittee is exploring a proposal for the legislature to consider mandating approximately 21 departments currently not using electronic citation or warning systems to transition by a certain date. Discussions revolve around the ease of tracking and validating data through the electronic system. Federal funding is available for equipment, minimizing costs for agencies. This is a forthcoming proposal to be considered.

These topics will receive further discussion at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.