

Community Police Review Commission
Racial Identity and Profiling Act - Ad Hoc Committee
Recommendation to the Safety, Wellness and Youth Committee
(May 12, 2026)

OBJECTIVE

As part of the Community Police Review Commission (CPRC) review of the Racial Identity and Profiling Act (RIPA) annual report as presented by the City Manager’s office, the CPRC is requesting that staff bring policy recommendations to the Safety Wellness and Youth Committee of the Riverside City Council for discussion and consideration.

OVERVIEW/BACKGROUND

What is RIPA? RIPA is an acronym for Racial and Identity Profiling Act. It was enacted in 2015 under AB 953, prohibiting law enforcement profiling and requires law enforcement agencies to collect and report on all pedestrian and traffic stops to the California Department of Justice.

Its purpose is to eliminate racial and identity profiling and improve diversity and sensitivity in law enforcement.

The data is used to produce annual reports that analyze trends, which are then used to develop evidence-based recommendations for law enforcement practices to combat implicit bias.

DATA LIMITATIONS

In discussing RIPA data with Riverside Police Department (RPD) leadership, it was expressed that the data collected may not fully represent “stops” accurately, due to the data including “calls for service”, “flag downs”, and individuals who are not residents of the city. We agree that “calls for service” and “flag downs” being included in the data might have an impact on the data analysis, what is not clear is if the impact would be material. Additional analysis is needed to determine that. Regarding non-residents, we view this as less an issue given the Riverside population mirrors California. For example, 2020 census data show 6.4% of California is Black or African American and 6.6% of Riverside’s population is Black or African American. It appears to be irrelevant whether persons stopped by police are residents or non-residents, as the issue is the greatly disproportionate percent of stops being Black or African American.

“STOP” DATA REVIEW

“Stop” data by racial group is collected and reviewed as a percentage of total stops. The percentage of total stops by race is then compared to the 2020 census data for the City of Riverside. Statistically, we would expect to see the number of stops closely track the

“STOP” DATA REVIEW - CONTINUED

percentage of each racial group. The following chart reflects a three-year history of RIPA results for the Riverside Police Department.

Ethnicity or Race	2020 Census Data	2024 RIPA Data % of Stops	2025 RIPA Data % of Stops	2026 RIPA Data % of Stops
Hispanic/Latino	55.90%	48.89%	52.68%	55.07%
White	25.30%	27.48%	25.13%	23.55%
Black or African American	6.60%	14.46%	13.85%	15.02%
Asian	8.50%	5.77%	5.61%	4.80%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islands	0.50%	0.73%	0.69%	0.50%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.10%	0.66%	0.60%	0.38%
Other Ethnicities	3.10%	2.00%	1.43%	0.68%

Please note of the following observations:

- African Americans make up 6.6% of the population in the city of Riverside, yet they make up an oversized portion of stops: 14.46% in 2024, 13.85% in 2025 and 15.02% in 2026. The three-year average of 14.44% is 2.18x the expected proportion (6.6% vs. 14.44%)
- All other races are stopped at a rate at or below their percentage of population, thus within expected proportion.
- Overall, 93.6% of the city population as categorized by racial groups are stopped at or below expected rates. The only exception is the African American population.

Additional stop analysis included in the RIPA report look at officer actions taken after stop. These actions include the following:

- Warnings provided
- Citations provided
- Arrest made with a warrant
- Arrest made without a warrant

African Americans experience higher levels in all the above (1.5x to over 3x the expected proportion), while all other racial groups are at or below expected proportion or within reasonable deviations. Please see City Manager RIPA report for detail.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations fall under the following categories:

- Data Analysis
- Data Interpretation
- RIPA Audits
- Goal Setting

Data Analysis: Due to RPD expressed concerns about data challenges, the CPRC recommends that the City Manager’s office run additional analysis removing “Calls for service”, “flag downs” and non-residents from the data set. Then compare to see if it makes any difference in the stop rate for African Americans. This analysis would be in addition to the required reporting and will help us better understand the data. This additional analysis should only be conducted if data is readily available. We are not asking to have any new data fields added to the current data collection form, nor submitted to RIPA. It would be for internal use only.

Data Interpretation: While the three-year numbers for African Americans appear problematic to the CPRC, currently the city does not have parameters that define when a data result is “out of bounds”, thus requiring further research to better understand the reason why a number is disproportionate to the expected distribution. Therefore, the CPRC recommends that deviation standards be created to identify when a result is considered problematic and requires further research or audit to get at the underlying reason behind the actual numbers. City leadership will need to determine the deviation standards, but a sample structural framework is listed below:

- Within 25% of expected distribution or current census data = Green/No further action
- Within 26% to 50% of expected distribution or current census data = Yellow/monitor
- Greater than 50% of expected distribution or current census data = Red/audit and report findings to CPRC and city leadership

RIPA Audit: The CPRC recommends that if RIPA data exceeds deviation standards, an audit of the data set at issue be conducted to determine if there are identifiable underlying factors that explain the disproportionate number of stops. We recommend that the audit be standardized and documented in terms of the type of data analysis that will be conducted. Further analysis might include the following, but in no way is an exhaustive list:

- Time of day analysis
- Location analysis (neighborhood, Ward, etc.)
- Percentage of officers stopping African American vs the percentage stopping all other groups
- Of all officers stopping African Americans, calculate the average number of stops and the extreme high and lows (average, median, 25th 75th 90th percentile).

The audit results would dictate actions to be taken, which could range from no action to additional training to disciplinary actions as appropriate.

Goal Setting: If after additional audit and analysis, profiling is determined, the CPRC recommends that a goal target be set to bring down the rate of stops of African Americans in proportion to their percentage of their population, just like all other racial groups currently experience. This goal is TBD by city leadership.

CONCLUSION

One of the primary responsibilities of the Safety, Wellness and Youth Committee is to provide recommendations to the city council and other governing bodies regarding policies and programs that impact youth and community safety. The CPRC has provided a framework of policy/practice recommendations regarding RIPA compliance, but the details of the policy will need to be crafted by city staff, leadership and elected officials. CPRC remains available to assist in this effort.