



IDOT TRAFFIC STOP DATA TASK FORCE

CITY OF URBANA
HUMAN RELATIONS OFFICE
400 South Vine Street
Urbana, IL 61801

LAUREL LUNT PRUSSING
MAYOR

PUBLIC COMMENT COVER PAGE

THE ATTACHED IS PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE
“PRELIMINARY REPORT” PUBLISHED ON 07/06/2015
BY THE URBANA IDOT TRAFFIC STOP DATA TASK FORCE

Comments Submitted by:	Frances Rigberg Baker
Date Received:	September 10, 2015

TASK FORCE INFORMATION:

The I.D.O.T. Traffic Stop Data Task Force was established by Urbana City Council Resolution NO. 2014-01-002.

The Task Force is charged with identifying and studying any racial disparities that may exist in local traffic stop data supplied annually to the City by the Illinois Department of Transportation (I.D.O.T.), and attempting to find the source and cause of any disparity. The Task Force is directed to examine multiple aspects of the traffic stop data, including race, driver age, residence, stop time, stop location, the reason for the stop, vehicle age, and any other information the Task Force finds to be useful. The Task Force will also look beyond traffic stop data to consider census and unemployment data, high school graduation rates, and incarceration statistics from the September 2013 study of the Champaign County justice system.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE TASK FORCE:

On the web, visit <http://urbanaininois.us/boards/idot-traffic-stop-data-task-force>; or

Contact the Urbana Human Relations Office by mail to: 400 South Vine Street, Urbana, Illinois 61801-3336; by email to acweck@urbanaininois.us; by telephone to (217) 384-2455; or by fax to: (217) 328-8288.

From: [Frances Rigberg Baker](#)
To: [Bautista, Alex \(Hortencio\)](#); [Pete Resnick](#)
Cc: [Weck, Anthony](#)
Subject: Comments on Task Force Findings
Date: Thursday, September 10, 2015 2:04:38 PM

To Alex and the Traffic Stop Data Task Force,

Below is my suggested rewrite of paragraph 2 of the "Context of this Report" section of the Executive Summary. Changes or additions are *italicized and underlined*. Some unaffected sentences are omitted using ellipses.

Thanks for considering these changes and using any or all of them. I trust your judgment.

Here's to the day when every citizen will both be and feel served and protected by the police.

Yours truly,

Frances Rigberg Baker

Human Relations Commissioner

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Nationally, we are witnessing the inevitable social tension and strain associated with transitioning from law enforcement *too often used* as a method of controlling minority communities to law enforcement that *consistently* collaborates with these communities as full participants in our society. ... Thus, in a very real sense, law enforcement is the community's mechanism to enforce its own standards. *Ideally, these standards represent the best-informed and most enlightened interests of all members of the community.* Significant discontinuity between the community's sanctioned methods and law enforcement's *actual* methods raises serious concerns about the legitimacy of particular law enforcement methods.

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"Freedom is the freedom to say that two plus two make four." --George Orwell, "1984"