

## **Metro Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC)**

### **August 3, 2023, General Meeting Motions**

#### **1. Request for Metro to report back on SSLE's findings on an incident witnessed by PSAC member.**

**Motion:** Request information and report back about an alleged incident witnessed by a PSAC member claiming that LAPD targeted black riders for fare checks on the Expo Line.

**Author Member:** John Curley

**Responding Staff:** Gina Osborn

**Dept:** System Security and Law Enforcement

**Response:** Response is attached

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#### **2. Request for information on the installation of push-plates to activate station elevators.**

**Motion:** Request more information and background on why Metro has not moved forward with Metro AAC request for push-plates in station elevators.

**Author Member:** David Sanchez

**Responding Staff:** Chris Limon

**Dept:** Metro Operations

**Response:**

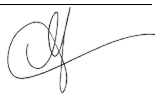
Metro has moved forward with Metro's Accessibility Advisory Council's (AAC's) request for push plates in station elevators by incorporating the requirement into the 2018 Metro Review Design Criteria (MRDC) update. Since not all controllers can support this upgrade, Metro has established a capital project to modernize over 110 elevators with push plates. Any current projects in process or recently completed that were initiated before 2018 are not subject to this requirement; however, they may be upgraded in the future. Any project started after 2018, including any elevator modernizations, will comply with the MRDC requirement.

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**Metro**

## Interoffice Memo

Date	September 27, 2023
To	Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC)
From	Gina Osborn, Chief Safety Officer 
Subject	Motion 8/3/2023: Request for Information on LAPD Incident Witnessed by PSAC Member

In May 2023, Metro was notified of an allegation posted on Twitter indicating that Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) had conducted fare checks on trains and were targeting black and brown riders. Systems Security and Law Enforcement (SSLE) was requested to review the rail car video to confirm the allegations. On May 15, SSLE Senior Executive Officer Robert Gummer reviewed the footage and provided the following observations:

1. Prior to LAPD boarding the rail car, the video shows a diverse group of patrons aboard the train.
2. LAPD boards the train car and announces that they are checking for TAP cards due to the increase in crime.
3. LAPD checks everyone in the rail car, verifying that patrons are in possession of either a physical TAP card or have one on their mobile device.
4. Officers complete their TAP checks and move on to the next rail car.

Based on the activities of the officers observed within the video, Sr. EO Robert Gummer did not note any activity out of the ordinary. The video footage did not support the allegation of targeting black and brown patrons, as the interactions observed were friendly and congruent with Metro expectations and standards. The officers in the video quickly conducted the TAP card checks with each patron and moved on to the next. None of the actions observed in the video were hostile or indicated anything that would constitute targeting or racial profiling. Sr. EO Robert Gummer provided his findings to Chief Safety Officer (CSO) Gina Osborn, who relayed those to the CEO.

By way of background, in support of the Drug-Free Campaign and Supplemental Deployment, Metro authorized law enforcement to conduct TAP card checks to reduce the number of individuals using the system, not for the purposes of transit. TAP card checks are not fare checks, as only Transit Security Officers are authorized to conduct that activity on the system. The checks by law enforcement ensured that riders were in possession of a TAP card and if not, would initiate a potential trespassing investigation to determine whether the patron was on Metro for the purposes of transit.

At PSAC's August 3 regular meeting, member John Curley made a motion asking Metro to report back on SSLE's findings. The motion passed by a majority vote.