

July 10, 2020
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Dear Ms Wengraf:

I am concerned about police traffic stops. Besides the possibility of corruption as was found in Ferguson these are now a dragnet for unrelated offenses without probable cause and with a well documented racial bias. Some officers are openly bigoted but the need for a rapid decision based only on appearance also brings out implicit biases making driving a cause of significant fear and some danger for black people. The possibility of finding a major offense and hence a violent or flight response also forces officers to be more ready with their weapons and poses a danger to others.

Please assure me that you will support the innovative move from slogan to policy of putting traffic stops into civilian hands.

I am very proud to be a Berkeley resident and a large part of that derives from our progressive leadership.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson