



King County

1200 King County
Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Meeting Agenda Law and Justice Committee

Councilmembers:
Rhonda Lewis, Chair;
Rod Dembowski, Vice-Chair;
Claudia Balducci, Jorge L. Barón, Teresa Mosqueda

Lead Staff: Leah Krekel-Zoppi (206-477-0892)
Co-Lead Erica Newman (206-477-7543)
Committee Clerk: Gabbi Williams (206-477-7470)

9:30 AM

Wednesday, April 1, 2026

Hybrid Meeting

Hybrid Meetings: Attend King County Council committee meetings in person in Council Chambers (Room 1001), 516 3rd Avenue in Seattle, or through remote access. Details on how to attend and/or provide comment remotely are listed below.

Pursuant to K.C.C. 1.24.035 A. and F., this meeting is also noticed as a meeting of the Metropolitan King County Council, whose agenda is limited to the committee business. In this meeting only the rules and procedures applicable to committees apply and not those applicable to full council meetings.

HOW TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT: The Law and Justice Committee values community input and looks forward to hearing from you on agenda items.

There are three ways to provide public comment:

1. **In person:** You may attend the meeting and provide comment in the Council Chambers.
2. **By email:** You may comment in writing on current agenda items by submitting your email comments to kcccomitt@kingcounty.gov. If your email is received before 8:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting, your email comments will be distributed to the committee members and appropriate staff prior to the meeting.
3. **Remote attendance at the meeting by phone or computer:** You may provide oral comment on current agenda items during the meeting's public comment period by connecting to the meeting via phone or computer using the ZOOM application at <https://zoom.us/join> and entering the Webinar ID number below.

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| | <p>Sign language and interpreter services can be arranged given sufficient notice (206-848-0355). TTY Number - TTY 711.</p> <p>Council Chambers is equipped with a hearing loop, which provides a wireless signal that is picked up by a hearing aid when it is set to 'T' (Telecoil) setting.</p> | |
|--|--|--|

You are not required to sign up in advance. Comments are limited to current agenda items.

You have the right to language access services at no cost to you. To request these services, please contact Language Access Coordinator, Tera Chea at (206) 477-9259 or email Tera.chea2@kingcounty.gov by 8:00 a.m. no fewer than three business days prior to the meeting.

CONNECTING TO THE WEBINAR:

Webinar ID: 889 0017 7467

By computer using the Zoom application at <https://zoom.us/join> and the Webinar ID above.

Via phone by calling 1-253-215-8782 and entering the Webinar ID above.

HOW TO WATCH/LISTEN TO THE MEETING REMOTELY: There are three ways to watch or listen to the meeting:

- 1) Stream online via this link www.kingcounty.gov/kctv or input the link web address into your web browser.
- 2) Watch King County TV on Comcast Channel 22 and 322(HD) and Astound Broadband Channels 22 and 711(HD).
- 3) Listen to the meeting by telephone see "Connecting to the Webinar" above.

To help us manage the meeting, if you do not wish to be called upon for public comment, please use the Livestream or King County TV options listed above, if possible, to watch or listen to the meeting.

1. **Call to Order**



2. **Roll Call**

3. **Approval of Minutes p. 4**

March 4, 2026 meeting minutes

4. **Public Comment**

To show a PDF of the written materials for an agenda item, click on the agenda item below.

| | | |
|---|--|---|
|  | <p>Sign language and interpreter services can be arranged given sufficient notice (206-848-0355). TTY Number - TTY 711.</p> <p>Council Chambers is equipped with a hearing loop, which provides a wireless signal that is picked up by a hearing aid when it is set to 'T' (Telecoil) setting.</p> |  |
|---|--|---|

Briefing

5. [Briefing No. 2026-B0047](#) p. 6

Panel Discussion on Human Trafficking Prevention

Dae Shogren, Director, Equity and Social Justice, King County Council
LeAnn Blanco, Civil Rights Program Manager, Port of Seattle
Jay Doran, Manager of Policy and Communications, Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
Hedda McClendon, SVP Legacy, FIFA

6. [Briefing No. 2026-B0048](#) (no materials)

Panel Discussion on the Role of Professional Staff in Public Defense

Zachary Brusseau, Public Defense Attorney, Department of Public Defense (DPD)
Molly Gilbert, DPD Investigator and SEIU 925 Chapter President
Rachel Schultz, Project Program Manager and Teamsters 117 Chief Steward



7. [Briefing No. 2026-B0049](#) p. 12

Office of Law Enforcement Oversight Traffic Enforcement Report

Katy Kirschner, Deputy Director, King County Office of Law Enforcement Oversight
Lea Hunter, Senior Policy Analyst, King County Office of Law Enforcement Oversight
Simrit Hans, Policy Analyst, King County Office of Law Enforcement Oversight
Molly Webster, Policy Analyst, King County Office of Law Enforcement Oversight
Angelica Gonzalez Graham, Healing Justice Organizer, Eastside for All

Other Business

Adjournment

| | | |
|---|---|---|
|  | <p>Sign language and interpreter services can be arranged given sufficient notice (206-848-0355). TTY Number - TTY 711. Council Chambers is equipped with a hearing loop, which provides a wireless signal that is picked up by a hearing aid when it is set to 'T' (Telecoil) setting.</p> |  |
|---|---|---|



King County

1200 King County
Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Meeting Minutes Law and Justice Committee

Councilmembers:
Rhonda Lewis, Chair;
Rod Dembowski, Vice-Chair;
Claudia Balducci, Jorge L. Barón, Teresa Mosqueda

Lead Staff: Leah Krekel-Zoppi (206-477-0892)
Co-Lead Erica Newman (206-477-7543)
Committee Clerk: Gabbi Williams (206-477-7470)

9:30 AM

Wednesday, March 4, 2026

Hybrid Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES - REVISED AGENDA

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Lewis called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

2. **Roll Call**

Present: 5 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Lewis and Mosqueda

3. **Approval of Minutes**

Councilmember Dembowski moved approval of the minutes of the February 4, 2026 meeting. Seeing no objections, the minutes were approved.

Discussion and Possible Action

4. **[Proposed Ordinance No. 2026-0040](#)**

AN ORDINANCE relating to the department of public defense standards for indigent defense; amending Ordinance 17588, Section 4, as amended, and K.C.C. 2.60.026 and adding a new section to K.C.C. chapter 2.60.

Leah Krekel-Zoppi, Council Staff, briefed the committee and answered questions from the members. Matthew Sanders, Director, Department of Public Defense, Jeff Muhm, Special Advisor to the Executive Leadership Team, King County Executive's Office, and Kendall Moore, Deputy Chief Legal Counsel, King County Council, also addressed the committee and answered questions from the members.

This matter was Deferred

5. [Proposed Ordinance No. 2026-0027](#)

AN ORDINANCE limiting the use of King County-owned and controlled property; amending Ordinance 18665, Section 1, as amended, and K.C.C. 2.15.005 and adding a new section to K.C.C. chapter 2.15.

Gene Paul, Council Staff, briefed the committee. Misha Werschkul, Deputy Director of Policy and Innovation, Office of the Executive, also addressed the committee.

Councilmember Mosqueda moved Striking Amendment S1. The Amendment was adopted.

Amendment 1 to Striking Amendment S1 was not offered.

Amendment 2 to Striking Amendment S1 was not offered.

Councilmember Mosqueda moved Title Amendment T1. The Amendment was adopted.

A motion was made by Councilmember Mosqueda that this Ordinance be Recommended Do Pass Substitute. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Lewis and Mosqueda

Other Business

There was no other business to come before the committee.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m

Approved this _____ day of _____

Clerk's Signature

ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING

LeAnn Blanco, Civil Rights Program Manager

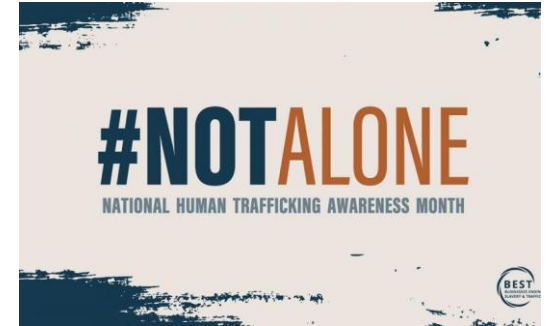
Jay Doran, Manager of Policy & Communications

KCC Law & Justice Committee Panel – April 2026





The Port's Fight Against Human Trafficking



2018

- Commission passes Port's AHT Strategy

2020

- Required 100% of Port Staff Trained

2022

- Survivors Self-Identify
- Not Alone Campaign

2024

- Survivor-led QR Codes Launched

2019

- Increased awareness and reporting

2021

- Expanding Training to Maritime Community

2023

- Pledge to Fight Human Trafficking (PAAHT Launched)

2025

- Port PD delivers first anti-trafficking Training to Port Employees & Tenants

**END HUMAN TRAFFICKING
HERE. ANYWHERE.**



JANUARY IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

The Port of Seattle works with local transportation and travel industries, law enforcement agencies and nonprofits to save lives and prevent trafficking.

Learn more about how employers and businesses can help. www.bestalliance.org



HE LIED ABOUT THE JOB, NOW HE WON'T LET ME LEAVE.

WATraffickingHelp.org

HELP STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING.
AYUDE A TERMINAR CON LA EXPLOTACIÓN DE PERSONAS.
National Human Trafficking Hotline 1-888-3737-888 or text 233733

Anti-Human Trafficking

For the World Cup and Beyond



Employee Training

- **Ports/Flights to Freedom** – requiring all employees to complete by May 31st
- **AHT Training with POSPD** – April 2026



AHT Toolkit

- **AHT Toolkit for FWC26 Host Cities** – in partnership with BEST
- **Media Event** – April 2026



External Engagement

- **Port Allies Against Human Trafficking**
- **Strategy Workshops** – in partnership with BEST, hosting workshops for Aviation and Maritime partners



Awareness & Resources

- **Annual PAAHT Breakfast**
- **Multilingual Signage**
- **QR Code, Hotlines**

FIFA World Cup Preparation

- **Regional Coordination and Partnerships**
 - King County Anti-Human Trafficking Workgroup for FWC26
 - FIFA Regional Passenger Experience Coordination
 - Terminal Efficiency FWC26 Working Group (internal)
 - Host Airports
- **Internal Communication**
 - “Know the Difference” Campaign – helping employees distinguish different initiatives and resources
 - Employee Guidance on Immigration



Questions?





King County

Law and Justice Committee

April 1, 2026

**Agenda Item No. 6
Briefing No. 2026-B0048**

Panel Discussion on the Role of Professional Staff in Public Defense

There are no materials for this item.

Traffic Enforcement

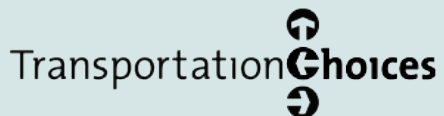
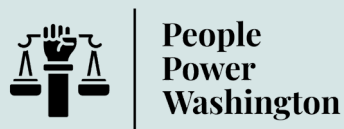
Shifting Sheriff's Office Practices for Improved Traffic Safety

Prepared by:

Simrit Hans, Molly Webster, Lea Hunter, and Katy Kirschner

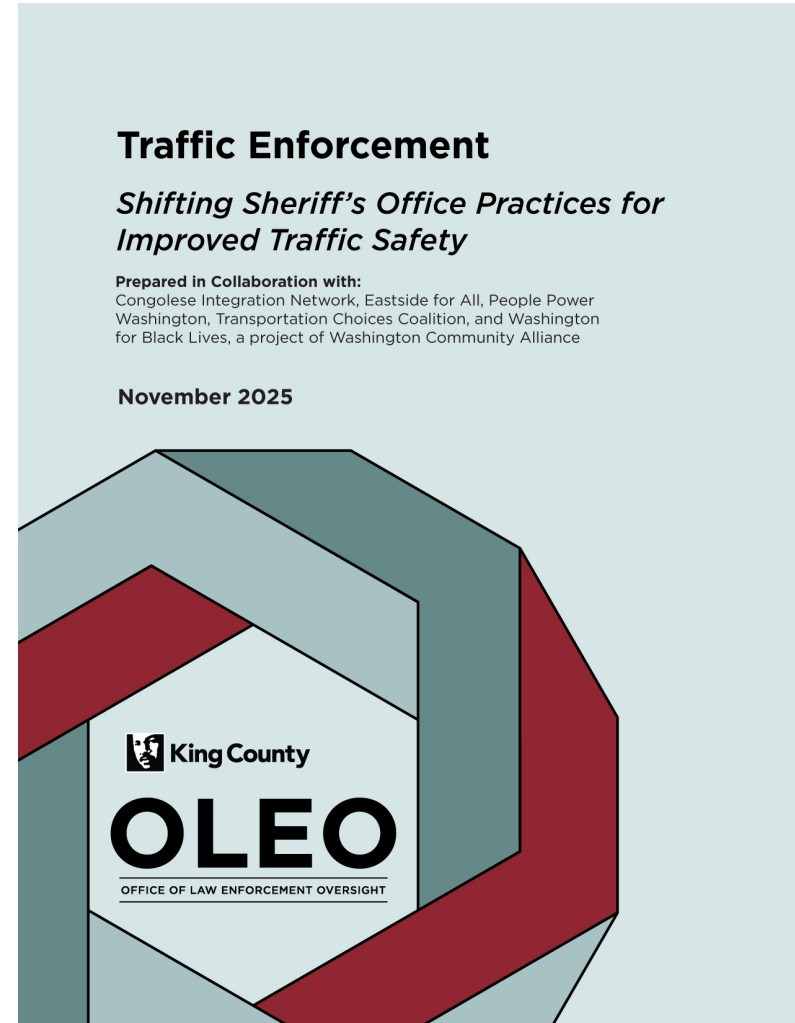
In collaboration with:

Congolese Integration Network, Eastside For All, People Power Washington, Transportation Choices Coalition, and with contributions from Washington for Black Lives, a project of Washington Community Alliance.



OLEO's Community Guidance Framework

- Community Guidance Framework Overview
- Key Takeaways
- Outreach Phase
- Research Phase
- Recommendations
- Conclusion and Questions



OLEO's Community Guidance Framework

- The CGF was developed in 2024
- Improves upon OLEO's policy review process by:
 - Incorporating community partners into every step
 - Increasing transparency with and accountability to partners
 - Responding directly to partners' priorities



Key Takeaways

- Community members and Sheriff's Office deputies agree: speeding and aggressive driving are top traffic safety concerns in King County
- Traffic stops remain the most common encounter between deputies and community members, setting the tone for police-community relations.
- Despite the King County Auditor's 2022 recommendations, the Sheriff's Office continues to lack a department-wide traffic safety strategy or uniform data collection practices
- Prioritizing safety-related stops leverages limited law enforcement resources towards the most pressing concerns



Outreach Phase

Nov. 2024 – Jan. 2025

Methods

Traffic Safety Survey

- Developed and distributed by OLEO and community partners
- Collected nearly 200 responses between mid-November 2024 and early January, 2025
- Most respondents were White nondisabled women who did not speak a language other than English at home

Listening Sessions

- Two partners, the Congolese Integration Network and Washington for Black Lives (a project of the Washington Community Alliance) hosted listening sessions
- The demographic characteristics of listening session attendees was different from survey respondents: refugees and immigrants primarily from the Sub-Saharan region of Africa and single Black fathers in King County.

Findings

- Conducted both an online survey and in-person listening sessions between mid-November 2024 and early January 2025
- Both survey respondents and listening session attendees listed **speeding** and **aggressive driving** as top safety concerns
- Some feedback was contradictory: survey respondents called for increased police presence while listening session attendees prioritized limiting interactions with law enforcement.
- Vehicle maintenance was a low traffic safety concern for survey participants.



Research Phase

Feb. 2025 – Apr. 2025

Sheriff's Office Current Practice

- Interviews with Sheriff's Office personnel highlighted:
 - A lack of unified traffic safety strategy across the department
 - Significant deputy discretion
- The agency cannot consistently track specific traffic safety patterns and resulting law enforcement actions across the county
- OLEO conducted a review of Sheriff's Office traffic stop data from 2020-2024
 - Traffic stops declined throughout the pandemic, picking up again in 2023 and dramatically increasing in 2024.
 - Roughly two thirds of stops end in a warning.
 - Half of stops are for non-safety related violations.

Literature Review

- OLEO reviewed peer jurisdiction policies and peer-reviewed research to determine national best practices.
- Generally, shifts in traffic enforcement policy fall into four buckets:
 - Prioritizing stops for safety-related violations
 - Civilianization of traffic enforcement
 - Increased automated enforcement
 - Improved data collection practices



Community-Guided Recommendations

May 2025 – Present

Developing the Recommendations

- OLEO presented research findings to community partners who gave input on which solutions seemed best fit for King County
- OLEO drafted recommendation language based on partner feedback
 - Due to conflicting feedback, multiple versions of recommendations were drafted for further input
- OLEO facilitated a group meeting where partners discussed recommendation options, negotiated changes, and approved four recommendations.

Recommendation 1

Revise policy guidance to prioritize enforcement of safety-related traffic violations, restrict non-safety-related traffic stops, and create a data-driven agency-wide traffic enforcement strategy.

1.1 Prioritize safety-related stops.

1.2 Restrict non-safety-related traffic stops.

1.3 Provide data-driven guidance to deputies to promote traffic safety.

1.4 Pursue non-punitive measures that address the root causes of traffic violations.

Recommendation 2

Limit questioning and prohibit consent searches during traffic stops to promote the rights of drivers and reduce racial disparities in enforcement.

- 2.1** Require deputies to limit the scope of their questioning during a traffic stop to the primary reason for initiating the stop.
- 2.2** Require deputies to immediately inform the driver of the initial reason for the stop upon first contact.
- 2.3** Prohibit “consent searches” during traffic stops.

Recommendation 3

Collect data for all traffic stops—including demographic data—and implement best practices for data collection, storage, and analysis to improve transparency and promote accountability.

3.1 Collect and analyze data for all traffic stops.

3.2 Collect and analyze traffic stop demographic data.

3.3 Streamline data collection practices.

Recommendation 4

If the Sheriff's Office is considering increasing automated traffic enforcement, King County should first commission an independent feasibility and equity study and require robust community engagement on the potential implementation of automated enforcement.

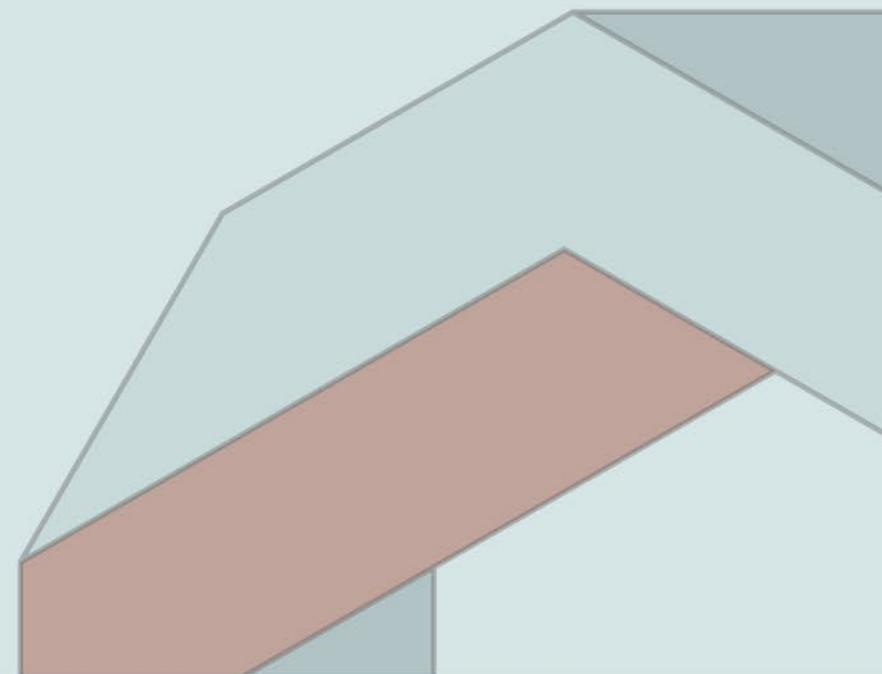
4.1 The Sheriff's Office should not pursue any new or additional automated enforcement until a feasibility and equity study can demonstrate a pathway to mitigate privacy and equity concerns.

4.2 Any future plans for implementing additional automated enforcement should be community-driven and aim to address the root causes of traffic safety concerns.

Next Steps

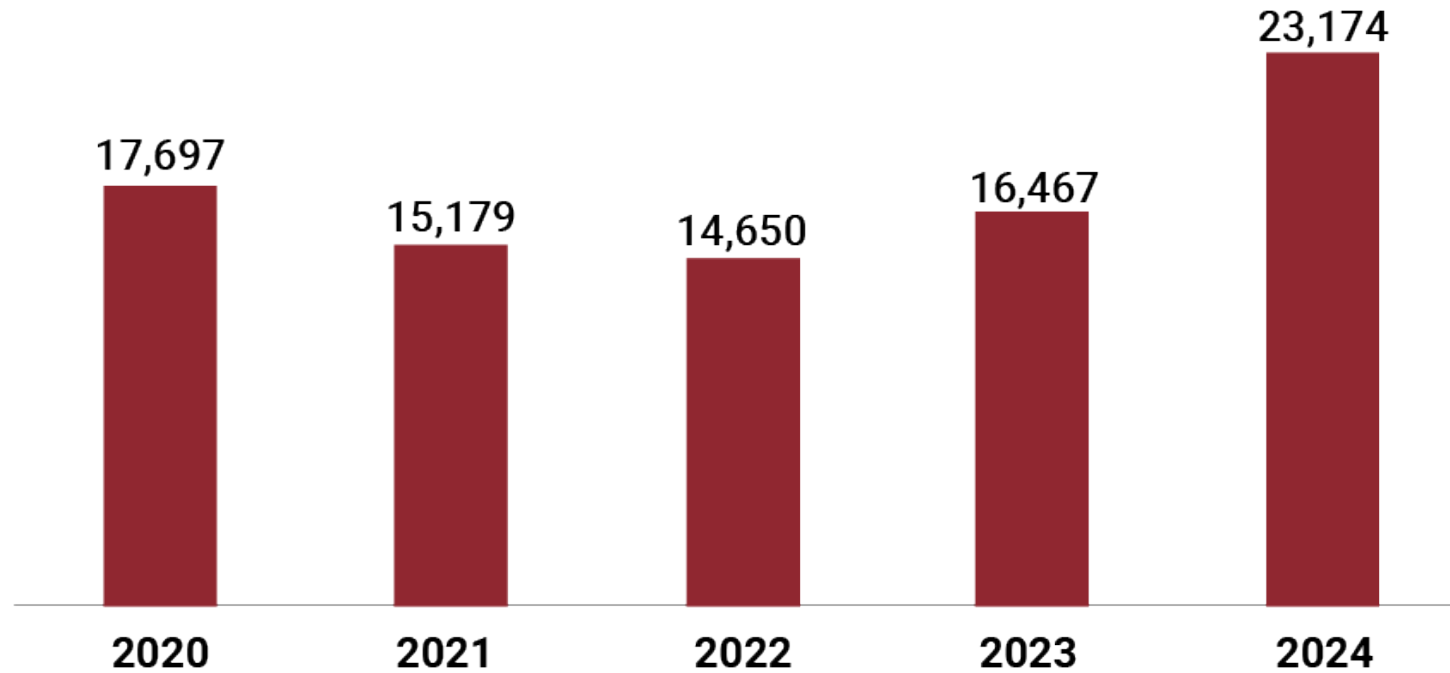
- The Sheriff's Office has received the report, is formulating a response, and has been in conversation with OLEO about the recommendations.
- OLEO will continue to monitor their response and will follow up with the Sheriff's Office, the County Council, and CACLEO six months after publication.
- OLEO continues to work on community-guided policy projects. If community members interested in getting involved, please contact our team at oleo@kingcounty.gov

Thank you!
Questions?



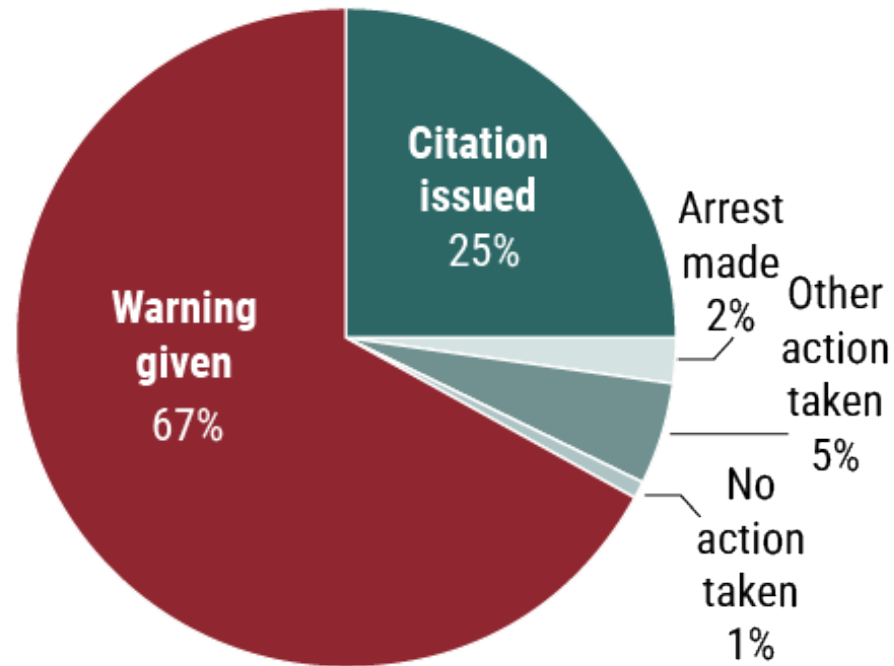
Sheriff's Office Current Practice (Cont.)

**Sheriff's Office Traffic Stops Increased in 2024
Compared to the Previous Four Years**



Sheriff's Office Current Practice (Cont.)

Traffic Stop Outcomes Across King County, 2020-2024



Sheriff's Office Current Practice (Cont.)

Comparing Safety and Non-Safety Traffic Violations Across King County, 2020-2024

