



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DASHCAMS

Ordinance 896-2022

Requesting Entity: Cleveland Division of Police

Geographic Scope of Project: City-Wide

Primary Contact Name: Chief Drummond/Chief Howard/AC Jones

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AMOUNT REQUESTED \$2,300,000

DESCRIPTION

This project would outfit the Division of Police Frontline vehicles with in-car dash cameras. Dash cams would be reserved for the 295 frontline zone car vehicles plus some of the specialized units and Bureau of Traffic. This project would include purchase of dash cams, installation, cloud storage, software license accounts, and equipment refresh for a 5-year period.

Dashcams are specific to in-car vehicle. CPD would be looking at a 360 degree front facing camera and backseat transport camera. Cameras would be set to active automatically on several triggers (speeding over a set limit (example over 55 mphs), release of the shotgun, opening front doors, opening rear doors, crash impact, lights and siren).

TIMELINE

This project would start once the legislation is approved. Estimated timeline would start in October 2022 with the drafting and release of the RFP. The RFP will be evaluated and awarded in January 2023. Installation of the vehicle fleet will start in March 2023 – December 2023.

IMPLEMENTATION

The Department of Finance, Division of Information Technology & Services and Safety IT will be responsible for implementation from an IT perspective. The Office of Radio Communications, Awarded Vendor and Bid Contractors will be responsible for the dashcam installation.

PARTNERS

There are no external secured partners for this project. This is a proprietary software solution which will be awarded based upon the evaluation of the RFP responses.

GOALS

The goal of this initiative is to provide greater transparency and build community trust as it relates to the Division of Police. Dashcams will provide additional camera footage of vehicle pursuits, traffic stops and transports. According to the DOJ, these cameras have served to deter assaults on officers, provide evidence in trials, provide material for officer training, increase law enforcement accountability, and build an agency's credibility in the community.



EQUITY

This project will increase transparency and build community trust for community members who have long felt that there was no video accountability for potentially racially-motivated vehicle pursuits, traffic stops and arrest/detainee transports. These cameras help investigators understand the chain of events in incidences, allowing for more objective investigations and for future training opportunities to improve policing and discourage racial profiling.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Transparency and Community trust is the Community Impact of this initiative. When the Division implemented Body Worn Cameras, Citizen Complaints dropped by 42%. Dash Cams will further aid in the interaction between Officers and Citizens and provide an independent vehicle playback of vehicle pursuits, actions leading up to a traffic stop and the transport of individuals who are arrested or detained.

DIFFERENTIATION

N/A – Dashcams are used across the state and nation. It is a technology which would bring Cleveland up to speed with other police departments.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

As it relates to releasing dash camera video footage Ordinance No 694-2021, passed August 10, 2022 mandates the release of DashCam video footage within 7 days as well as any remaining footage of the incident released within 30 days. The Division has already implemented a Body Camera footage review policy in which Sergeants, Lieutenants, Captain, Commanders, Deputy Chief and the Chief review Body Worn Camera footage. This same review process will also be instituted for DashCam reviews.

The Division will review a certain amount of Dashcam recorded traffic stops, vehicle pursuits, arrest transports and citizen interactions for quality assurance and policy evaluation. Videos will also be forwarded to the Training Academy which will be used to improve Policing for Academy Classes, In-Service and Roll Call Room Announcements.

Review of video by supervisory staff in the Division of Police is already a part of their assigned duties. Furthermore, the Mobile Support Unit is the staff unit responsible for video redaction and release via the Law Department.