



AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: April 1, 2026

SUBJECT: Body-Worn Camera, Taser, and Fleet Camera Grant Opportunity

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Move to authorize a grant application¹ from the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office for 2027 Congressionally Directed Spending.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

In 2021, the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office, in part due to legislative requirements, contracted with a body and car camera vendor to outfit the patrol division. This was DCSO's first body and car camera system for incident recording, evidentiary collection, and post-incident analysis. This system has reached its intended end of life. Body and dash cameras are no longer running on the latest hardware versions, and functional gaps have been identified when compared to other vendor offerings. DCSO was also subject to an internal audit last year which identified operational, regulatory, and policy improvements which cannot be met by the current vendor.

The new selected vendor will address the shortcomings of the current system and provide significant operational improvement and efficiency for DCSO. The new vendor is a market leader in this sector and offers technical innovations in body camera technology and digital evidence management. Funding from this grant will update DCSO's camera technology deployment to current industry standard and allow for continued efficiency and improvement as the technology evolves.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

The total cost of the project is \$2,298,672. DCSO originally sought to have the full cost covered by Community Project Funding (CPF). The sub-committee came back and asked if the request could be scaled back. After reviewing the quote and working with the sub-committee, it was agreed to seek \$1,749,819. The original package was phased over a five-year contract with Axon; the funding strategy will be reassessed if the funding is approved.

¹ The grant request was finalized with both Senator Merkley and Congresswoman Janelle Bynum's offices in mid-March. Due to learning about this grant opportunity late in the process, DCSO had a limited window to complete and submit the application.

ATTENDANCE:

Jeff Price, Business Manager, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office

Jon Spring, IT Manager, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office

Elizabeth Lopez, Administrative Analyst, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office