



# Folsom City Council Staff Report

<b>MEETING DATE:</b>	6/8/2021
<b>AGENDA SECTION:</b>	Consent Calendar
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Resolution No. 10647 - A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Agreement with Axon Enterprise, Inc. for the Purchase of Police Body-Worn and In-Car Cameras
<b>FROM:</b>	Police Department

### **RECOMMENDATION / CITY COUNCIL ACTION**

Staff recommends the City Council pass and adopt Resolution No. 10647 - A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Agreement with Axon for the Purchase of Police Body-Worn and In-Car Cameras and associated equipment.

### **BACKGROUND / ISSUE**

Body-worn cameras (BWC) and in-car cameras (ICC) provide officers with a reliable and compact tool to systematically and automatically record their field observations and encounters. They can be used for documentation purposes, to include interactions with victims, witnesses, and others during police-public encounters; arrests; and critical incidents. Additionally, body-worn cameras can be used for training and evaluation purposes, allowing agencies to identify and address performance deficiencies with their officers.

Community groups have increasingly called for the Folsom Police Department to implement ICC and BWCs for accountability and transparency in policing. We have piloted BWCs in the past, and they have proven useful for evidence and accountability and were frequently relied upon by officers who carried them.

The implementation of a BWC program would generate a significant workload in terms of public records act requests, and audio/video redaction. Law enforcement agencies in our region that have implemented BWC programs estimate that for each minute of video collected, 4 minutes of staff time is required in order to produce a releasable product.

## **POLICY / RULE**

This purchase is exempt from competitive bids due to Axon being the sole manufacturer, distributor, and retailer of all TASER brand products. A sole source letter is attached.

## **ANALYSIS**

Axon is the manufacturer of TASER, the electronic control device (ECD) deployed by Folsom Police Officers for more than a decade and the ECD of choice for law enforcement agencies across the nation. Axon's firmly established relationship with law enforcement provided them the opportunity to move into the in-car camera (ICC) and body-worn camera (BWC) industry. As technology advanced, Axon began integrating all three technologies, and they now offer a comprehensive "bundle" at per officer pricing.

Generally, body-worn cameras are not a stand-alone technology. Rather, body worn-cameras supplement an in-car camera program. ICCs offer a much more advantageous viewpoint while an officer is seated in their vehicle. In essence, the ICC may capture many of the things an officer sees prior to conducting a traffic stop, during a pursuit, or upon arrival at an incident. These observations are frequently blocked from the officer's body-worn camera by the steering wheel and the officer's arms.

Conversely, once an officer leaves their vehicle, they rarely conduct business in an area directly in front of it. For this reason, the body-worn camera is much more advantageous in capturing in-person contacts, including the verbal communication between an officer and a citizen. Body-worn cameras are still frequently blocked, for instance, by the extended arms of an officer who is in a shooting position. However, these instances are minimized with proper camera placement and solid training practices.

Axon is able to deliver a superior camera bundle by incorporating body-worn camera, in-car camera, and TASER camera (ECD) technologies all integrated with the same software package. Additionally, Axon's per officer annual cost includes installation of ICCs and all necessary training for BWC deployment and use.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

There are many options for implementing a camera program. From full department-wide implementation to a slower buildup and rollout of individual components, Axon is able to build a model that fits budgetary needs. Staff recommends full implementation because all police personnel engage in work and contacts that a camera system should capture.

The cost for full implementation of 72 BWCs, 35 vehicle cameras, 72 Taser 7 (with accessories and docking station), would be \$211,366.90 in the first year and \$257,689.59 per year for the next 4 years, for a total contract amount of \$1,242,125.26. The Police Department will have a small savings over current costs of Tasers. The current cost of Tasers is approximately \$5,629 per year for replacement and new devices, cartridge replacements and batteries. During the contract term these cost would be included in the contract for a savings over the 5 years of \$28,145.

Staff is requesting an agreement in the amount of \$1,242,125.26 be authorized for the purchase of body-worn cameras, in-car cameras and tasers.

The first year of the contract cost has been included in the FY 2021-22 General Fund (Fund 010) Budget in the Police Department as well as funding for 2 part time employees to provide review of the captured video. Years 2 through 5 of the contract will be included in future budgets during the budget process.

**ATTACHMENT**

Resolution No. 10647 - A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Agreement with Axon Enterprise, Inc. for the Purchase of Police Body-Worn and In-Car Cameras

Submitted,

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Richard Hillman, Chief of Police

**RESOLUTION NO. 10647**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH AXON ENTERPRISE, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF POLICE BODY-WORN AND IN-CAR CAMERAS**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Folsom's mission is to provide a safe, healthy, and vibrant community through innovative, responsive, and effective delivery of services to maintain and enhance the quality of life of our residents; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Folsom's Core Values support innovations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Police Department believes the program will enhance transparency and strengthen relations between Folsom Police Officers and the community; and

**WHEREAS**, the agreement with Axon Enterprise, Inc. will be for the not-to-exceed amount of \$1,242,125.26, to be paid over 5 years; and

**WHEREAS**, this purchase was included in the Fiscal Year 2021-22 General Fund (Fund 010) Budget in the Police Department, and funding is available; and

**WHEREAS**, the agreement will be in a form acceptable to the City Attorney:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Folsom hereby authorizes the City Manager to execute a purchase agreement with Axon Enterprise, Inc. for the purchase of body-worn cameras.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 8<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021, by the following roll-call vote:

**AYES:** Councilmember(s):

**NOES:** Councilmember(s):

**ABSENT:** Councilmember(s):

**ABSTAIN:** Councilmember(s):

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Michael D. Kozlowski, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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Christa Freemantle, CITY CLERK