

TO: Public Health & Safety Committee  
FROM: Jon Weiks, Chief of Police  
DATE: April 9, 2024  
SUBJECT: Body-Worn Cameras

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1) Recommended Action:

No action is requested. This is for discussion only.

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2) Background:

The use of body-worn cameras (BWC) is becoming more prevalent among law enforcement agencies in Washington State and specifically within Thurston County. The Tumwater Police Department has had in-car cameras for 25+ years and has continuously assessed the value of adding BWCs for the last ten years. The assessments include a presentation to the Public Health & Safety Committee (PHSC) prior to preparing each biennial budget. The 2025-2026 biennial budget prep work is under way and we are returning to PHSC with updated information.

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3) Policy Support:

2023-2024 Strategic Priority: *“Provide and Sustain Quality Public Safety Services”*

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4) Alternatives:

This is for discussion only.

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5) Fiscal Notes:

The known estimated cost to operate a BWC program is a minimum of \$535,000 annually, plus a one-time start up cost of approximately \$70,000 for various equipment. The unknown costs encompass: increasing cloud storage needs; public records request demands; and, facility needs.

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6) Attachments:

A. Body-Worn Cameras