



Request for Council Committee Action from the Department of Police

Date: June 9, 2015

To: The Honorable Blong Yang, Chair, Public Safety, Civil Rights and Emergency Management Committee

Subject: Grant application to the Office of Justice Programs for a Body-Worn Camera Pilot Program.

Recommendation: Authorizing submission of a grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) to develop, implement, and evaluate a Body-Worn Camera pilot program as a comprehensive problem-solving approach to improve law enforcement and to enhance officer interactions with the public.

Prepared by: Wendy Guck Approved by: Robin McPherson, MPD Finance Director Presenters in Committee: Robin McPherson

Financial Impact:

This BJA grant requires a local match of up to the total grant award. The application is being recommended for \$600,000; thus, the local required match would be in an amount of up to \$600,000. This action is within the department's business plan.

Background:

The Minneapolis Police Department seeks to submit a grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) for up to \$600,000 to plan, develop, implement, and evaluate a comprehensive program for body-worn cameras by selected MPD personnel and with input from the community and the criminal justice system. Through the program, the MPD will develop and implement policies and practices, including the purchase and deployment of equipment, and privacy and data retention policy issues. This grant application requires a local match of up to the total grant award.

Initial concerns about potential supplanting with this grant application have been resolved and are no longer a concern. The MPD has no further concerns about potential conflicts with this grant application, and recommends that the application be submitted in order to secure grant funds to support the body camera pilot project. The MPD is currently evaluating body cameras and, once that evaluation is complete, will compile an estimation of costs for implementation. A comprehensive estimation of costs will be available prior to any acceptance of any grant award, assuming an award is received.

The grant application must be submitted by no later than June 16, 2015. Grant awards are scheduled to be released in October 2015. Pursuing this grant funding is anticipated to delay implementation of a full body camera program by approximately 5 months. Any delay in release of the grant awards or delay in equipment due to availability or other factors could potentially further delay the project.