



# City of Madison

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
www.cityofmadison.com

## Meeting Minutes - Approved BODY-WORN CAMERA FEASIBILITY REVIEW COMMITTEE

*Consider: Who benefits? Who is burdened?  
Who does not have a voice at the table?  
How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?*

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Thursday, July 30, 2020

5:30 PM

Via virtual meeting

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**Note: Quorum of the Common Council may be present at this meeting  
\*You must register before your item is considered by the Workgroup.**

### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM

**Others present: Captain Brian Austin, MPD; City Attorney Mike Haas**

**Present:** 5 - Charles Myadze; Luke B. Schieve; Tom Brown; Keith A. Findley and Gregory W. Gelembiuk

**Absent:** 2 - Jacquelyn Hunt and Matthew W. Braunginn

**Excused:** 2 - Veronica Figueroa and Kim M. Jorgensen

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Schieve, seconded by Gelembiuk, to Approve the Minutes. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

### DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None

1. [61546](#) PUBLIC COMMENT FOR THE 7/30/2020 MEETING OF THE BODY-WORN CAMERA FEASIBILITY REVIEW COMMITTEE

None

### DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

2. [61551](#) Discussion with community organizations regarding body-worn cameras

Dr. Ruben Anthony from the Urban League presented to the committee on his organization's perspective on the implementation of body-worn cameras by MPD officers. Dr. Anthony indicated support for the use of body-worn cameras, if they are used the way the NFL uses footage to improve performance, as well as providing video evidence. He discussed discussions with the Black Leadership Council breakout groups on this topic. Dr. Anthony also discussed the need to mitigate privacy concerns. The committee engaged in a discussion with Dr. Anthony on the topic.

Chris Ott from the ACLU of Wisconsin presented to the committee on his organization's perspective on the implementation of body-worn cameras by MPD officers. Mr. Ott indicated that the position of support for body-worn cameras by the ACLU is a variation from the organization's usual position on surveillance devices, but that the ACLU supports body-worn cameras because they may be able to provide a check on police actions. Mr. Ott raised the issue of privacy and stressed the need to create policies that protect privacy. The committee engaged in a discussion with Mr. Ott on the topic.

3. [61547](#) Updates from Captain Brian Austin

Captain Austin discussed his initial research into the vendor landscape for body-worn cameras. Currently, MPD uses a Panasonic system for their dash cams and the body cams that SWAT currently uses, so that would be the least expensive vendor to engage, with an estimated approximate cost of \$400,000 one-time equipment costs, \$21,000/year maintenance costs, and \$300,000/year personnel costs. The other large vendors would involve both equipment costs and system costs, with start-up estimated costs of approximately \$1.0 million, in addition to the ongoing personnel and maintenance costs. The committee asked to see examples of footage from each of the vendors, and expressed interest in learning about the smaller vendors as well. The committee also asked Captain Austin to contact the UW Police Department for their experience using their body-worn camera system.

4. [61548](#) Discussion of news video clip featuring body-worn camera footage of fatal shooting

The committee attempted to watch a video of body-worn camera footage from a news report on a fatal shooting and discussed their observations. The committee also discussed the role of perception and bias in interpreting events on video.

Attorney Haas raised the issue of records retention and state law as a topic to keep in mind as the committee moves toward crafting a set of recommendations.

The video is posted in the documents for this committee.

5. [61549](#) Discussion of social science and legal scholarship on body-worn cameras

Keith Findley presented his reflections on the articles his group was assigned to read and report back on. Key take-always include: 1) Officers should not have the discretion to turn body cameras on and off, 2) at the start of interactions with the public, officers should provide a verbal reminder that the camera is recording., 3) position the cameras so that parts of the officer's body are captured on video.

Luke Schieve raised the concern of large volumes of footage being able to be viewed carefully for use in cases.

#### ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Schieve, seconded by Gelembiuk, to Adjourn. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

- [61164](#) Documents for the Body-Worn Camera Feasibility Review Committee