From: Erin Lemley
To: Body-Worn Camera Feasibility Review Committee
Cc: Foster, Grant
Subject: Recommend against body cameras
Date: Sunday, January 3, 2021 7:44:05 AM

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Dear Body Camera Feasibility Review Committee,

Thank you for all of the hard work that you have been putting in, studying the effects of body cameras in communities. Although I have only been able to attend one of the committee's meetings, I have been following along with the information presented as well as I have been able. I know it's been a lot of work for you!

However, I believe it's clear after looking at the data and what we now know about how cameras are used in policing that they are not right for Madison. Body cameras cannot solve our policing problems, like so many things they are not a silver bullet that make police officers suddenly behave better or be held accountable for their actions. I am deeply troubled that communities with body cameras have increased charges brought against citizens due to body camera footage, and I am very leery of the effects that the 1st person view give to the person watching the video.

Maintaining a body-worn camera system is extremely expensive in the long run, and that money could be more effectively spend on community health, education, and work efforts that actually impact crime long-term, instead of on cameras that do little but increase the criminality of our citizens.

Like many of you, I used to agree that body cameras would be a good choice, however we now have enough data to see that this isn't the case. The unintended consequences of body-worm cameras are too high. Please recommend against the use of body cameras to the Madison Common Council.

Sincerely,
Erin Lemley
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Madison, WI 53704