From:	ddrier@wisc.edu
To:	All Alders
Subject:	[All Alders] MPD Body Cams Petition
Date:	Monday, June 22, 2020 9:43:58 AM

Recipient: All Alders

Name: Diana Drier
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Would you like us to contact you? Yes, by email

Message:

All- I have attempted to contact my District 11 Alderperson Arvina Martin directly without luck. As elected officials I expect that you are obligated to be receptive to input from the people of Madison and so I am hoping that an email to the entire City Council will be heard and answered. My name is Diana Drier and I started a paper petition collecting support for the use of body cams by all on duty police officers in Madison. A majority of Madisonians that I spoke with actually assumed that this was already a policy, specifically many people consider Madision to be a progressive city with the inherent goal of police accountability and transparency. I believe as do many others that body cams need to be an investment that is seriously considered. I do understand that there is a significant cost involved and body cams in and of themselves are not a one solution fix ie rules about use and repercussion for camera gaps, availability of videos to the public and for legal proceedings and long term storage consideration are a couple of considerations to name a few. I have collected nearly 300 paper signatures and along with an online Change.org petition with an additional 4900 signatures. I'm hoping that this volume of support will NOT be ignored. But I need your help to push this forward to the Mayor for serious review and consideration. I have been told by both the Acting Police Chief Wahl and the Mayor's office that they are in favor of body cams. I understand that as with many things, money lies at the root of decision making. And so I need your help. I have had contact with both WKOW27 and NBC15 and plan also to contact news print organizations. Please respond and let me know how you can help push this clearly supported strategy for police transparency forward. The number of African Americans being brutalized and murdered is clearly an issue and very very sadly we only know about the cases that are captured on cell phone by bystanders. There is no way to know how many other African Americans are also the victims of the police without video proof.

Thanks for your consideration. You can contact me by phone at 608-957-9226 or by email at ddrier@wisc.edu.

Sincerely, Diana Drier