From:	Bidar, Shiva
To:	Wahl, Victor; Obeng, Kwasi
Cc:	Kapusta-Pofahl, Karen
Subject:	Fwd: [D5] Revisiting The Issue of Police Body Cams
Date:	Friday, May 29, 2020 4:51:53 PM

Hi

I have received a number of similar emails so I am sharing my response as an FYI and as context for the BWC committee. Thanks

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Bidar, Shiva" <district5@cityofmadison.com>
> **Date:** May 29, 2020 at 2:16:40 PM CDT
> **To:** "caseyltice@gmail.com" <caseyltice@gmail.com>
> **Subject: Re: [D5] Revisiting The Issue of Police Body Cams**
>
> Dear Casey
>
> Thank you for your email. The murder of George Floyd is indeed a horrific and unacceptable murder, and he joins a way too long list of Black men killed by police.
>
> As far as body worn cameras, I appreciate your thoughts on them. This is a much more complex issue that it may appear to be. I have listened and followed the lead of our many residents of color, the directly impacted communities, who have been involved in the discussion about body worn cameras. It is easy to see body worn cameras as a panacea but they don't prevent the awful murders such as George Floyd's murder. Nor did being on video prevent the beating of Rodney King over 20 years ago. They just shine the light on them.
>
> I am hoping you will take the time to read the following:
> Report of the City Body Camera Ad Hoc Committee from 2017:
> https://madison.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=5338331&GUID=41623C9D-8567-4E75-BB94-CB29E1E628D9
>
> Report of the OIR regarding Mad
> https://bloximages.chicago2.vip.townnews.com/madison.com/content/tncms/assets/v3/editorial/e/88/e8857bcb-e627-512a-ab72-2dd163d3a0aa/5a57a9af89a1e.pdf.pdf
> See pages 214 to 218
>
> Report of the City of Madison MPD policy, process and procedures ad hoc committee
> https://madison.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=7812735&GUID=21A9A1A7-AD70-45D3-A954-D660214097C2
>
> As you will see the recommendation 177 was to form a committee to discuss the feasibility of body worn cameras again now given that we have a full set of comprehensive recommendations, some which have already been implemented and the biggest one, the hiring of an independent auditor, should be in place before the end of 2020.
>
> If the new body worn camera feasibility committee concludes we should have body worn cameras, I will happily support it. And most importantly they will provide direction on how they should be implemented in order to not create unintentional harm.
>
> I have been a strong advocate for police reform. It is the biggest and most important issue to me in my years on the council. I will continue to do all I can to push for continued transparency, accountability and oversight.
>
> Best, Shiva
>
> On May 29, 2020, at 1:55 PM, "caseyltice@gmail.com" <caseyltice@gmail.com> wrote:

Recipient: District 5, Shiva Bidar

Name: Casey Tice
Address: 22 Aster Lane, Madison, WI 53719
Email: caseyltice@gmail.com

Would you like us to contact you? Yes, by email

Message:

Dear Alder Bidar,

With news of incredible police violence happening on the regular these days, I do think it is worthwhile to revisit the issue of police body cams. Your name had come up as on a past committee to look into the use of body cams.
I admit my ignorance to this issue until looking into the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis. Certainly, the use of a body cam would likely not have change the result of his tragic death. But, the video that was taken by a bystander is likely what escalated this case to the public eye and can put the wheels of justice in motion. We should not have to rely on bystanders' cellphone footage for justice. This should be a standard practice among our police forces. We will need more to change of course - this will by no means solve all - but it is a step. I understand the concern of privacy, and more work will need to be done surrounding this, but we need this accountability. Now. Thank you for your time.