



**BODY-WORN
CAMERA**
TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

BWC Cost Calculator GUIDEBOOK

BWC Cost Calculator

BWC Cost Calculator Guidebook

CNA
ANALYSIS & SOLUTIONS

This project was supported by Grant No. 2015-DE-BX-K002 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the SMART Office. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

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Introduction and Overview

Many body-worn camera (BWC) sites struggle with program cost issues. It can be difficult to estimate and forecast the ongoing costs of maintaining BWC programs, including equipment, infrastructure, storage, redaction, personnel, and other costs. Additionally, sites may be unsure whether the potential savings from BWCs (e.g., through reduced investigations of complaints against officers, reduced investigations of use of force incidents, reduced civil litigation) might come close to or exceed the costs of BWC programs, producing net savings.

The BWC Program Cost Calculator was developed primarily as a tool to guide BWC sites through these various cost issues, to help them think more concretely about cost issues related to BWC programs and plan for long-term costs and benefits of a BWC program. This cost calculator is a spreadsheet-based algorithm (set of mathematical calculations) that allows a BWC site to enter real or estimated cost and cost-related data for a series of variables and quickly estimate the current and future costs of its BWC programs, as well as estimate whether the anticipated benefits of its BWC program will offset program costs in part or in whole. This proposed calculator will provide estimates for planning purposes, helping sites understand different BWC program cost drivers and potential savings.

The calculator is not meant to produce a precise forecast of costs and savings for the purposes of official budgeting. Rather, the calculator is intended to guide thinking about the costs and benefits of a BWC program and provides for making low, medium, and high cost and benefit assumptions to help jurisdictions gauge what future costs or savings might be

Quick-Start Guide

The BWC Cost Calculator Worksheet can be found at <http://www.TBD.com>. This guide is available for download and can be used to help BWC Policy and Implementation Program (PIP) site managers think about the costs and benefits associated with a BWC program. Once the document is downloaded, users will be able to input specific information about their agency's BWC program, and the worksheet will display costs, benefits, and net cost over five years.

On average, it is expected to take **XX time** to fill out the worksheet, depending on the availability of certain cost and benefit figures. Before beginning the worksheet, it will help to know the following information:

- Vendor choices and camera costs,
- Number of cameras desired, and how they will be implemented over the next several years,
- Types and costs of additional equipment and software desired,
- Types and cost of storage solutions,
- Cost of any IT infrastructure updates,
- Additional personnel costs,

- Prosecution video transmission costs,
- Public Information request costs, and
- Information on the amount and costs of complaints, use-of-force incidents, and officer involved shooting incidents.

For more information and guidance on finding out this information go to www.BWCTTA.com.

The worksheet includes a list of costs and benefits, with a section for the user to input information about each cost and benefit and an explanation of the costs and benefit categories. Please be sure to read all explanations carefully. On the worksheet, there are boxes highlighted in

- Green with grey dots: users should input information into the green boxes.
- Blue with diagonal white stripes: information will automatically populate the blue boxes. Please do not type in those boxes.
- Light grey with dark shading: these boxes should be left blank.

If you have any questions about a particular cost or benefit, please refer to the sections below that provide more detail about the costs and benefits included in the worksheet or contact us at <http://www.bwctta.com/Ask%20a%20BWC%20Expert>.

Estimating Costs

This section estimates the cost of a BWC program to a site based on the specific cost of

- Cameras
- Storage
- Additional equipment
- Software and licenses
- Maintenance
- IT infrastructure upgrades
- Additional personnel
- Prosecution video transmission
- Public Information Requests.

Cost will be computed for up to a five-year period of ownership, with costs allocated to the year in which the costs are incurred.

Purchase cost distribution

Sites can choose to make all camera purchases upfront or spread out in different ways across a number of years. The user should fill out the number of BWCs to be fielded, then the cost calculator will offer three options for the timing of the rollout and associated purchase costs:

- If the first option is selected, all camera purchases occur in the first year.

- If the second option is selected, camera purchases will be evenly spread out over five years.
- If the third option is selected, users will be permitted to manually enter the number of cameras they intend to purchase in each year.

In each case, the sheet will automatically calculate purchase cost for each year based on the background information filled out on the number of cameras purchased that year and cost per camera.

Basic camera and docking costs

Vendor name

Please enter name(s) of vendors being considered as Vendor 1, Vendor 2, or Vendor 3 under the appropriate column. It is acceptable to enter a single vendor, if that is all you are considering. If you are contemplating more than three vendors, you can save additional copies of the spreadsheet.

Cost per camera

Please enter the cost per camera under the appropriate column for each vendor. Contact vendors of interest for pricing.

Docking stations

Cost per docking station

Please enter the cost per docking station under the appropriate column for each vendor. Contact vendors of interest for pricing.

Number of cameras per docking station

Please enter the number of cameras per docking station under the appropriate column for each vendor. Contact vendors of interest for specifications.

Number of BWCs Purchased per Year

This section will automatically populate based on your response to the “Purchase Cost Distribution” question. If you select “I want to manually input purchase costs across five years” under the “Purchase Cost Distribution” question, then you will need to input the number of BWCs planned to be purchased each year for each vendor.

Storage

There are a variety of different storage solution options that sites can choose from. Each of these storage solution options has various pros and cons, depending on the specifics of the site. Please work with your Information Technology (IT) personnel and vendors of interest to identify storage requirements and costs, and make appropriate storage solution decisions.

A key factor in storage costs will be the resolution settings available, and chosen, for the cameras you are considering. Higher resolution usually means better quality video, but it

also means increased storage and bandwidth requirements to transmit and store the video captured.

Cloud fees per camera per month

If you are considering cloud storage, please enter monthly fees charged per officer for any cloud storage vendors of interest. If you are not considering cloud storage, leave this section blank.

Other fixed monthly cloud fees

If you are considering cloud storage, please enter monthly fees for any other costs not included in the above. If you are not considering cloud storage, leave this section blank.

In-house video storage

If you are considering in-house storage, please work with your IT personnel and vendors of interest to identify storage requirements and costs. Enter the upfront costs of in-house video storage into this section. If you are not considering in-house video storage leave this section blank.

Peripheral equipment (one-time, upfront costs)

A BWC program typically requires some equipment, such as camera mounts, in addition to cameras. Contact similar departments with BWCs and vendors of interest for availability and pricing of such items. The following section briefly surveys the cost requirements of these items.

Spare cameras

Please enter the number of spare cameras desired. Contact vendors of interest for recommendations and pricing of these items.

Camera mounts

Contact vendors of interest for recommendations and pricing of these items.

Camera mounts not included with camera

Please enter the number of camera mounts desired (only if they do not come with cameras).

Cost per camera mount

Please enter the cost per camera mount.

Annual cost of other spare parts

Please enter the combined annual cost of any other desired additional spare parts. Contact vendors of interest for recommendations and pricing of such items.

Auto-initiation triggers

Auto-initiation triggers and equipment/software that allow the camera to be initiated by officers' actions (e.g., pulling weapon, turning on siren, etc.). Contact vendors of interest for availability and pricing of such items.

Auto-initiation triggers

Please enter the number of desired auto-initiation triggers.

Cost per auto-initiation trigger

Please enter the equipment cost per auto-initiation trigger.

Other peripheral equipment

Please enter the combined annual cost of any other desired peripheral equipment. Contact vendors of interest for recommendations and pricing of such items.

Licenses (annual fees)

BWC Programs can require licenses for various types of software and other technology. Contact vendors of interest for availability and pricing of such items.

Software

Contact vendors of interest for availability and pricing of such items.

Video management software

Please enter the annual costs of video management software. Contact vendors of interest for availability and pricing of such items.

Video editing and redaction software

Some vendors bundle video editing and redaction software with their other software licenses, others require the customer to purchase their own software. Some agencies will use the bundled software, while others may still purchase additional software. In estimating these costs, you may want to talk to the vendors to identify what software may be included with their licensing and talk to other users to identify if additional software may be required, in addition to consulting with your agency's IT personnel and perhaps video editing experts within your agency and/or government entity. Additional information regarding public information requests and redaction is included in the "Public Information Requests" section below. Please enter the annual costs of redaction software. Contact vendors of interest for availability and pricing of such items.

CAD integration

Please enter the annual costs of CAD integration. Contact vendors of interest for availability and pricing of such items.

Other

In this section include any other software and licensing costs such as auto-initiation trigger licensing costs and storage of non-BWC digital evidence. Contact vendors of interest for availability and pricing of such items. Please enter the combined annual cost of any other licensing fees not captured already.

Maintenance

Please enter the annual cost of maintenance. Contact vendors of interest for availability and pricing of maintenance for equipment identified above.

Cost to upgrade IT infrastructure

BWC programs can require upgrades to existing IT infrastructure. BWC infrastructure for uploads/downloads and charging often requires upgrades for bandwidth and electrical capacity.

For example: An agency may need to upgrade the electrical and/or network wiring to the room(s) where cameras will be docked in the docking stations. Additional network upgrades may be required to handle the network capacity for uploading and/or accessing BWC videos. That bandwidth will be different, depending on vendor(s) and video resolution(s) considered or chosen.

Please work with your IT personnel to identify whether upgrades are required and, if so, what the costs may be.

Personnel

BWC programs can require additional personnel and training. The following section will account for the costs of additional personnel and training. All costs will be input as annual costs, figuring the personnel time required for each position against the fully weighted annual cost (e.g., including all benefits and other costs) for such a position in your agency.

BWC project manager/coordinator

Some agencies will need to dedicate a full-time person to manage the program. Others may need only a part-time person with other duties. Please determine what your agency might need and enter the annual cost for that position.

IT personnel

Some agencies will need to dedicate one or more full-time personnel to manage the IT aspects of the program. Others may need only a part-time person with other duties. In general, data self-storage will require more—and more highly trained—personnel to manage data self-storage than cloud storage, as the cloud vendor will typically manage specific IT functions. Consult with your IT personnel and vendors of interest to identify personnel requirements and costs. Please determine what your agency might need and enter the annual cost of all additional IT personnel.

Training

Some agencies will need to dedicate one or more full-time personnel to train officers in the use of BWC. Others may need only a part-time person with other duties. Please determine what your agency might need and enter the annual cost for all training personnel.

Public information personnel

Some agencies will need to dedicate one or more full-time personnel to manage the public information aspects of the program. Others may need only a part-time person with other duties or hire outside contractors. Much of the need will be based on local/state open records laws and the policies implemented by your agency regarding methods and requirements for public access. Additional information regarding public information requests and redaction is included in the “Public Information Requests” section below. Please determine what your agency might need and enter the annual fully weighted cost for all personnel processing Public Information Requests.

Other program personnel

Some agencies will want to dedicate one or more full-time personnel to assist in the management of the BWC program. This can include liaisons to stations or units, time allocations for supervisor or other internal review of video for personnel management and/or policy compliance, and other program supervisory efforts. Please determine what your agency might need and enter the combined annual cost for all other additional personnel.

Prosecution Video Transmission

Agencies can incur significant costs transmitting BWC video evidence to prosecutors’ offices, including personnel costs and the means of transmission, such as discs, flash-drive, and software licensing. This section covers potential costs that agencies incur transmitting BWC video footage to prosecutors’ offices. Some of the section overlaps with the “Public Information Request” section. Please do not account for duplicate costs in both sections. Rather, chose one section to account for the cost or split the cost between sections.

Can the vendor transmit electronically to prosecutors?

Some vendors provide a method or platform to electronically transmit BWC video footage to prosecutors through the Internet, especially when cloud storage is used. Please check with your vendor about the availability of this feature and whether there are any additional charges associated with it. If this service is available and your agency plans to use it, please select “Yes”. If this service is unavailable or your agency does not plan to use this service, please select “No”.

If the prosecutor requires videos, will the prosecutor accept electronic transmission?

Some prosecutors' offices are equipped to handle electronic transmission for most or all cases. Others may be equipped to handle electronic transmission for internal review, but still need external media (e.g., DVDs or flash drives) for court and transmission of evidence to defense. Factors may include their internal technical requirements and the number of agencies they serve and the number of disparate systems they might need to access to manage video. Please check with your prosecutor's office to determine whether it will accept electronic transmission of BWC video footage (and to what extent). The calculations, below, may be useful in understanding the economic impacts of the prosecutor's approach to handling video transmission. The answer options provided for this question are "Yes", "No", "Maybe", and "Sometimes." If the answer to this question and the above question are both "Yes," then the rest of the answers in this section will auto-populate to zero. If you believe your agency will still incur prosecution video transmission costs despite using electronic transmission, you can change the auto-populated answers below.

Video media: Annual number of videos requested

If your prosecutor requires transmission of video by external media for all cases, please enter the total number of annual videos being requested by your prosecutor's office. This will be the number of videos the prosecutors' office will request by external media after all cameras have been rolled out. This can be estimated by multiplying the number of cases per year that you expect to have video requests by the average number of videos requested per case. Your agency's past history, your agency's current crime trends, and prosecutor's office conventions regarding case review should inform the above stated estimate. Please consult with your prosecutor's office to determine this amount. If your prosecutor's office only requires media for some cases, please work with the prosecutor's office to estimate the annual number of cases for which video media must be prepared.

Prosecution video transmission personnel cost per video

Agencies may need to create a new position or add hours to an existing position to account for additional video transmission tasks. This position will vary by agency, policy, and chain of custody requirements. Some agencies assign this role to a detective assigned to the case; others might assign it to records, evidence, or IT personnel, among others. If your agency currently prepares digital media for prosecutors, the task may remain with the personnel currently preparing such media. If your agency does not currently prepare digital media for prosecutors, you may want to consult your prosecutor's office, IT personnel, or other agencies preparing media for the prosecutor's office to estimate the average time expected to prepare each video media item.

If your agency currently prepares digital media for prosecutors, such as In Car Video recordings, audio recordings, digital photos, the current time to prepare each video media item will be at least as long as preparing the existing media, and will grow slightly with each file added to the media item. If your agency does not currently prepare digital media for prosecutors, you may want to consult with your IT personnel and other agencies preparing media for the prosecutors' office to estimate the average time it will take to

prepare each video media item. Any time expected for video editing, redaction, or other manipulation should be included here, as well as time to label, package, and send the video media to prosecutors.

Please enter the cost for one video for all personnel processing video requests from the prosecutor's office. This cost can be estimated by multiplying the relevant personnel's hourly rate by the time required to fulfill an average video request.

Video editing and redaction equipment (upfront cost)

Depending on the extent of your video editing and redaction needs, you might need dedicated equipment, such as a high-end workstation. If your agency is going to transmit video via DVDs, you may require a high-end rapid DVD burner if there will be sufficient throughput to justify its use. Please enter the upfront cost of any new equipment—such as DVD burners or computer upgrades—that you may specifically require to handle prosecution video media preparation. Please consult with IT personnel and prosecutors. The information entered in this section may overlap with the “video editing and redaction equipment” question under “Public Information Request.” Please enter this information in one of the two places, or split the cost between the two questions.

Video editing and redaction supplies cost per video

If your agency is going to transmit video via external media, such as DVDs or USB thumb drives, the costs of the media should be accounted for. Please enter the cost of editing and redaction supplies per video. Please consult with your prosecutor's office about the type of media (e.g., CD, DVD, USB thumb drive) generally used to transmit BWC video footage, and the cost of that media. The information entered in this section may overlap with the “video editing and redaction equipment” question under “Public Information Request.” Please enter this information in one of the two places, or split the cost between the two questions.

Video editing and redaction services cost per video

Some agencies may choose to outsource video editing and redaction to external vendors for some or all of their editing and redaction needs. In some cases, the outside vendor may be another law enforcement agency with extra capacity. When estimating these costs, consider talking to local vendors to identify pricing and availability and to other users to identify the potential volume of videos. Additionally, please consult with your agency's IT personnel and consider consulting with video editing experts within your agency or government entity. Please enter the expected cost of these services per video. The information entered in this section may overlap with the “video editing and redaction services” question under “Public Information Request.” Please enter this information in one of the two places, or split the cost between the two questions.

Public Information Requests

Law enforcement agencies using BWC will need some method of handling Public Information Requests, including

- Taking in the requests
- Evaluating the requests against laws and policies to determine if/how to fulfill them
- Editing the relevant segment(s) of video
- Redacting any protected information
- Providing the video to the requestor.

The number of requests and video to be processed will be determined by a number of factors, including

- State and local law
- Agency policies
- Size of agency
- Numerous factors specific to the jurisdiction, including the nature of the media market and the nature of the relationship and trust between the agency and its community.

When estimating the factors for these costs, an agency may want to consult with surrounding agencies of similar size, with similar legal and policy frameworks. You may also want to talk to vendors to identify what software may be included with their licensing and talk to other users to identify if additional hardware or software may be required, in addition to consulting with your agency's IT personnel and perhaps video editing experts within your agency and/or government entity. Some of the section below overlaps with sections in the "Prosecution Video Transmission" section. Please do not account for duplicate costs in both sections. Rather, chose one section to account for the cost or split the cost between sections.

Video editing and redaction equipment

Depending on the extent of your video editing and redaction needs, dedicated equipment, such as a high-end workstation, may be required. If your agency is going to transmit video via DVDs, a high-end rapid DVD burner may be required if there will be sufficient throughput to justify its use. Please enter the upfront cost of this equipment. The information entered in this section may overlap with the "video editing and redaction equipment" question under "Prosecution Video Transmission." Please enter this information in one of the two places or split the cost between the two questions.

Video editing and redaction supplies

If your agency is going to transmit video via external media, such as DVDs or USB thumb drives, the costs of the media should be accounted for. If your agency chooses to use secure web interfaces to transmit the video, such costs can be avoided. In estimating these costs, you may want to talk to the vendors to identify whether they support secure video file transfer via the web and talk to other users to identify the potential volume of videos, in addition to consulting with your agency's IT personnel. Please enter the upfront cost of this equipment.

Video editing and redaction services

Some agencies may choose to outsource video editing and redaction to external vendors for some or all of their editing and redaction needs. In some cases, the outside vendor may be another law enforcement agency with extra capacity. In estimating these costs, consider talking to potential local vendors to identify pricing and availability and to other users to identify potential volume of videos. Additionally, please consult with your agency's IT personnel and consider consulting with video editing experts within your agency and/or government entity. Please enter the expected average monthly cost of these services. The information entered in this section may overlap with the "video editing and redaction services cost per video" question under "Prosecution Video Transmission." Please enter this information in one of the two places or split the cost between the two questions.

Public Information Request user fees

It may be that some or all of the costs for complying with public information requests may be recovered through user fees. The ability to collect such user fees may be impacted by state and local law. Please consult with your agency's legal counsel and consider consulting with surrounding agencies of similar size, with similar legal and policy frameworks to identify if/how such costs may be recouped. Please enter the annual amount your agency expects to receive in reimbursements.

Estimating Benefits

This section estimates the benefits of a BWC program to a site based on the specific benefits of

- Reductions in cost of complaints
- Reductions in cost of use of force incidents
- Reductions in cost of officer-involved shootings.



For this section, the user will enter information into the cells highlighted in green only. There is currently insufficient national research available on the potential impact of BWCs regarding complaints, use-of-force incidents, and officer involved shootings. The ranges provided below are very large. We will update this section as new research provides better guidance for these numbers.

Complaints

of complaints filed last year

Under the "Actual" column in the cell highlighted in green, please enter the actual number of complaints filed in the last full year of records. Please consult with your records and complaint resolution personnel to determine this number.

Average cost per complaint

Under the “Actual” column in the cell highlighted in green, please enter the average cost to investigate and resolve complaints filed in the last full year of records. Please consult with your records and complaint resolution personnel to determine this amount.

Expected reductions in complaints

Please consult with your records and complaint resolution personnel to determine high, medium, and low estimates of the reduction in percentage of complaints that may be attributed to the BWC program. Studies put such ranges between 0% and 90% reductions in complaints.

High estimate

Please enter a value for the high estimate of expected reductions in complaints. This value should be entered as a decimal between 0 and 1. The value will appear as a percent.

Medium estimate

Please enter a percent for the medium estimate of expected reductions in complaints. This value should be entered as a decimal between 0 and 1. The value will appear as a percent.

Low estimate

Please enter a percent for the low estimate of expected reductions in complaints. This value should be entered as a decimal between 0 and 1. The value will appear as a percent.

Expected percentage of complaints that can be resolved primarily by video review

Please consult with your records and complaint resolution personnel to determine high, medium, and low estimates for the percentage of complaints that can be resolved primarily by video review, thereby avoiding the cost of an investigation.

High estimate

Please enter a percent for the high estimate of expected reductions in complaints resolved primarily by video review. This value should be entered as a decimal between 0 and 1. The value will appear as a percent.

Medium estimate

Please enter a percent for the medium estimate of expected reductions in complaints resolved primarily by video review. This value should be entered as a decimal between 0 and 1. The value will appear as a percent.

Low estimate

Please enter a percent for the low estimate of expected reductions in complaints resolved primarily by video review. This value should be entered as a decimal between 0 and 1. The value will appear as a percent.

Expected percentage reduction in average cost if complaint is resolved solely by video

Please consult with your records and complaint resolution personnel to determine high, medium, and low estimates for the percentage reduction in average cost per complaint (entered earlier) if the complaint is resolved primarily by BWC video.

High estimate

Please enter a percent for the high estimate of expected reductions in average cost if complaints are resolved primarily by video. This value should be entered as a decimal between 0 and 1. The value will appear as a percent.

Medium estimate

Please enter a percent for the medium estimate of expected reductions in average cost if complaints are resolved primarily by video. This value should be entered as a decimal between 0 and 1. The value will appear as a percent.

Low estimate

Please enter a percent for the low estimate of expected reductions in average cost if complaints are resolved primarily by video. This value should be entered as a decimal between 0 and 1. The value will appear as a percent.

Use of Force

of use of force incidents last year

Under the “Actual” column in the cell highlighted in green, please enter the actual number of use of force incidents filed in the last full year of records. Please consult with your records personnel to determine this amount.

Average cost per use of force incident

Under the “Actual” column in the cell highlighted in green, please enter the average cost to investigate and resolve use of force incidents filed in the last full year of records. Please consult with your records and Internal Investigation personnel to determine this amount.

Expected reductions in use of force incidents

Please consult with your records and internal investigation personnel to determine high, medium, and low estimates for the percentage of use of force incidents that BWCs might reduce. Studies put such ranges between 0% and 59%.

High estimate

Please enter a percent for the high estimate of expected reductions in use of force incidents. This value should be entered as a decimal between 0 and 1. The value will appear as a percent.

Medium estimate

Please enter a percent for the medium estimate of expected reductions in use of force incidents. This value should be entered as a decimal between 0 and 1. The value will appear as a percent.

Low estimate

Please enter a percent for the low estimate of expected reductions in use of force incidents. This value should be entered as a decimal between 0 and 1. The value will appear as a percent.

Officer-involved shootings

of officer-involved shooting incidents last year

Under the “Actual” column in the cell highlighted in green, please enter the actual number of officer-involved shooting incidents filed in the last full year of records. Please consult with your records personnel to determine this amount.

Cost per officer-involved shooting incident

Under the “Actual” column in the cell highlighted in green, please enter the average cost to investigate and resolve officer-involved shooting incidents filed in the last full year of records. Please consult with your records and Internal Investigation personnel to determine this amount.

Expected reductions in officer-involved shooting incidents

Please consult with your records and internal investigation personnel to determine high, medium, and low estimates for the percentage of officer-involved shooting incidents that BWCs might reduce.

High estimate

Please enter a percent for the high estimate of expected reductions in officer-involved shooting incidents. This value should be entered as a decimal between 0 and 1. The value will appear as a percent.

Medium estimate

Please enter a percent for the medium estimate of expected reductions in officer-involved shooting incidents. This value should be entered as a decimal between 0 and 1. The value will appear as a percent.

Low estimate

Please enter a percent for the low estimate of expected reductions in officer-involved shooting incidents. This value should be entered as a decimal between 0 and 1. The value will appear as a percent.

Other Inputs

Annual inflation rate

The annual inflation rate captures the assumed future increase in the average price of personnel and materials. Please consult with your financial department to determine if there is a specific inflation rate your agency uses. The current annual inflation rate as of August 2018 is 0.019, as reported by the Office of Management and Budget. This value is currently listed in the worksheet. An updated annual inflation rate can be found on the Office of Management and Budget website: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Appendix-C.pdf>

Annual cost of borrowing

The annual cost of borrowing is the annual discount rate (or real interest rate). This reflects how much less a benefit received one year from now is worth relative to a benefit received today. This can be positive, even if there is no price inflation. Please consult with your financial department to determine if there is a specific discount rate your agency uses. The current annual discount rate as of August 2018 is -0.006, as reported by the Office of Management and Budget. This value is currently listed in the worksheet. An updated annual discount rate can be found on the Office of Management and Budget website: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Appendix-C.pdf>

Potential Funding Options

Numerous options are available for funding BWC programs. This section of the calculator can help your agency identify potential sources of funding and scenarios to meet your agency's funding requirements from the cost section of the calculator.

Federal grants



Federal grants, such as the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) BWC Policy Implementation Program (PIP) grant and the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) Check Point grants, can be used to fund BWC programs.

Information about the DOJ BJA BWC PIP grant program and other relevant DOJ BJA grants can be found at <https://www.bja.gov/bwc/topics-funding.html>.

State grants

Many states offer BWC grants. Please check with your state government for more information.

Nonprofit grants

Some nonprofit agencies, including local police foundations and police nonprofit organizations, have funded BWC programs.

State/local government direct appropriations

How much, if any, has your state or local government budgeted directly for your agency's BWC program?

Other operating funds

Any funds not covered by other sources will likely need to be covered by general operating budget funds.

Calculations

This section displays the estimated costs, benefits, net present value, and return on investment. Costs, benefits, and net present value appear as monetary values; negative values will appear in red text (with parentheses).

Costs

This section displays the cost of a BWC program by year based on the values inputted into the calculator. “Then-Year” is the cost at the time it is incurred, and the “Present value” is the current value of the cost incurred based on the annual inflation and discount rates. There is also a total cost over five years.

Benefits

This section displays the monetary value of benefits of a BWC program by year based on the values inputted into the calculator. A high, medium, and low estimate value is presented for each year. There is also a total monetary benefit over five years.

Net present value

The section displays the monetary value of a BWC program by year based on the costs and benefit values displayed in the previous two calculation sections. A high, medium, and low estimate value is presented for each year. There is also a total monetary value over five years.

Return on investment

This section displays the five-year return on investment based on the high, medium, and low estimate of a BWC camera program over five years.

Additional Benefit Areas

There are a number of additional potential benefits to BWC programs that are difficult to quantify. These benefits are discussed below.



In Car Video (ICV) Integration

Investigations

Civil litigation and settlement costs

Anticipated reductions in litigation

Anticipated reductions or increases in arrests and citations

Anticipated reductions in officer assaults and injuries

Officer wellness

Impact on Insurance Costs

Trust & Perception

Training Development

Additional Resources

This section will include information on additional resources such as the BWC Toolkit.

Appendixes

Appendix A: Acronyms

Appendix B: Points of Contact

Appendix C: Formulas

