

**CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: 12/2/2024

Reviewed by: NA

SUBJECT: Renew Body Camera and Storage System Contract for the Police Department

REPORT BY: John Geissberger, Police Chief

SUMMARY

In 2019, the police department purchased Axon body cameras for police officers, parking enforcement officers and some support staff. The current contract for camera replacement, support and video storage expires on January 14, 2025. Axon offers a Tech Assurance Plan, referred to as a TAP Refresh, which ensures that we will receive new, updated cameras and multi-camera docking bays at two intervals during the 5-year contract. The initial contract with Axon did not include unlimited storage and due to consistent usage, the allotted storage has been exceeded by double the amount purchased. This renewal contract will include unlimited storage.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Council adopt Resolution No. 2024-81 to:

1. Authorize a waiver of formal bids for the purchase of the body camera equipment; and
2. Authorize the City Manager to enter into a new contract with Axon which includes a camera replacement program and unlimited cloud storage, in an amount not to exceed \$208,500.65; and
3. Appropriate a total of \$208,500.65 from Citizens Option for Public Safety (COPS) grant funds, at a cost not to exceed \$208,500.65 for this purchase

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The Albany Police Department currently outfits officers, parking enforcement officers and some support staff with Axon body cameras. Body cameras help to capture the performance of officers, capture evidence and provide a resource for training and evaluation. Axon cameras allow officers to place the cameras in a charging bank and have the videos automatically uploaded to a Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) compliant cloud service provided by Axon called Evidence.com. The Axon camera system has a “Tagging Service” that will

automatically label each video based on data that is obtained from our Computer Automated Dispatch (CAD) system freeing the officer from this task. Evidence.com additionally allows officers to have community members directly submit their own video evidence to the cloud service, saving officers time from having to retrieve the evidence and physically placing the evidence into the department property room. Additionally, the Alameda County District Attorney's office has access to Evidence.com, so the police department can share videos with them directly, saving our support staff time since they no longer need to make copies of the video(s) for the district attorney, which also saves material resources such as DVD/CD's.

The purchase program offered by Axon has a 5-year warranty which will cover any lost, broken or stolen cameras, provide 3 spare cameras, and will replace all the cameras after 2-years and again after 3-years. This plan ensures the department will consistently have working cameras and will not have to fund unbudgeted replacement cameras over the next five years.

In addition, Council action is required to authorize a waiver of formal bids. This is requested due to Alameda County District Attorney's Office having access to Evidence.com and Axon cameras and storage system are the only cameras and system that work with Evidence.com, therefore staff is recommending that Council waive the requirement for formal bids.

FISCAL IMPACT

An appropriation of \$208,500.65 of COPS funds is required for this purchase.

COPS funds are provided by the State to fund front line police activities not budgeted in the City's annual operating budget. This purchase program meets the requirements for the use of the COPS funds.

Attachments

1. Resolution No. 2024-81
2. Axon Quote
3. Axon Sole Source Documents