



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Danny Barton, Chief of Police

Date: July 23, 2019

Reference: **Consider approval of a Buy Board contract with Axon in the amount of \$728,338.00, from existing funds, for the purchase of an enterprise-wide video recording and management platform and authorizing the City Manager to sign any necessary documents.**

Introduction: The Police Department is requesting the purchase of new video recording and management tools by Axon to replace our existing L-3 Mobile Vision in-car and body-worn video recording and management system. The L-3 system is quickly reaching a point where the body-worn cameras are beginning to fail, and the in-car systems are approaching their functional end-of-life. The L-3 video product line was recently sold by its parent company, making it more difficult to maintain product, software, and technical support. It is critical for the department to have video recordings for criminal justice purposes to document traffic stops, use of force incidents, arrests, and disturbances. Video recordings ensure professional accountability for our officers and facilitate a trusting bond with the public. There is a widely-held public expectation to see the video following critical incidents, especially deadly force encounters. Having videos of traffic stops and other public encounters is no longer a “nice to have” luxury, it is now part of the fabric of American law enforcement.

The best solution currently on the market is an enterprise-wide video recording and management platform made by Axon. The high level of technical capability and software functionality of the Axon products integrate vehicle and body-worn cameras into a single platform. Unlimited cloud-based storage is an integral part of this package.

Analysis: This purchase would result in greater efficiency for gathering and submitting evidence. Axon has a portal for citizens to send video directly to their cloud-based storage, eliminating both an intake and download process for field personnel. The Axon system is used by other agencies in Dallas County. It is compatible with the case filing system used by the Dallas District Attorney’s Office making it more efficient and time-effective for detectives filing criminal cases with the DA. The Axon system also expedites other areas that are time and labor intensive for CPD personnel including providing hard-copy media for open records requests, Michael Morton viewings, and courtroom testimony.

Fiscal Impact: The total cost of this purchase is \$728,338.00 over a five- year period by utilizing existing money in the Red Light Camera fund. This request is not part of budgeted funds but falls within the legal parameters surrounding usage of red light camera funds, most particularly traffic enforcement. The Axon system would be utilized in all Patrol vehicles, all Traffic vehicles, and on all Traffic motorcycles.

Legal Review: Agenda item was reviewed by City Attorney Robert Hager.

Recommendation: The Police Department recommends approval of City Council approval for Coppell to purchase an enterprise-level video system from Axon using a Buy Board contract in the amount of \$728,338.00 and authorizing the City Manager to sign any purchasing agreements.