

Date May 21, 2018

APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR THE  
FY 2018 BODY-WORN CAMERA POLICY AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM GRANT

WHEREAS, the City of Des Moines desires to apply for funding through the FY 2018 Body-Worn Camera Policy and Implementation Program grant to the Department of Justice in the amount of \$85,800 to be utilized in the purchase of body-worn camera equipment; and,

WHEREAS, the grant if awarded will require a minimum of a 50% match in the amount of \$86,136 funded through non-general fund dollars; and,

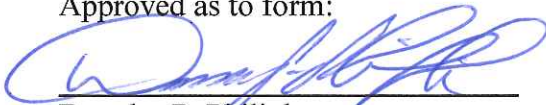
WHEREAS, the application for this grant is in the best interest of the City of Des Moines;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, that the FY 2018 Body-Worn Camera Policy and Implementation Program grant application to the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs is hereby approved, with the Mayor or his designee authorized to sign the grant application on behalf of the City, with the City Clerk to attest to the Mayor's or his designee's signature and to allow the City Manager or his designee to fulfill all other requirements of said grant application.

(Council Letter Number 18-251 attached)

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ to adopt

Approved as to form:



Douglas P. Philip  
Assistant City Attorney

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
COWNIE				
BOESEN				
COLEMAN				
GATTO				
GRAY				
MANDELBAUM				
WESTERGAARD				
TOTAL				

MOTION CARRIED APPROVED

**CERTIFICATE**

I, DIANE RAUH, City Clerk of said City hereby certify that at a meeting of the City Council of said City of Des Moines, held on the above date, among other proceedings the above was adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

\_\_\_\_\_ Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_ City Clerk

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**Body-Worn Camera Policy and Implementation Program**  
**Category 3: Expansion of BWC Programs for Large Agencies**  
Application Number: BJA – 2018-13574 City of Des Moines, Iowa

**Project Abstract**

The City of Des Moines, as the capital of Iowa, is the largest and most populated city within the state. The city serves as the center for the Greater Des Moines Metropolitan area which includes 14 smaller cities, several townships, unincorporated areas, and spans five counties. The metropolitan area had an estimated population of 599,789 in 2013 with the City of Des Moines reporting a population of 207,510 in the same year (US Census Report). However, the city’s actual population swells to more than 300,000 people on a daily basis with commuters, dignitaries, and visitors. With such a large concentration of people within the city limits, the probability of individuals having interaction with police officers dramatically increases.

The City of Des Moines Police Department employs 366 sworn officers to serve and protect the community by responded to 206,751 calls (2017) for service. In 2017, the department finalized a departmental policy regarding body-worn cameras and proceeded to purchased 300 body-worn cameras to be worn by the uniformed patrol officers. Theses cameras have proven to be effective in capturing evidential information and assisting with behavioral complaints. The success of the current body-worn camera program has encouraged the department to expand the current inventory of cameras to allow personnel, both sworn officers and non-sworn personnel, the ability to utilize the cameras during interactions with the public. The expansion would further increase departmental transparency to the community.

The cameras though successful, have a limited operating capability. The cameras are often required to operate for extended periods of time. The non-detachable battery has a nine hour expected charge. The more often the battery is charged over time, the less time the battery is capable of operating the camera. An increased inventory of cameras will also have an impact on the cost of the program which is a constant concern with shrinking municipal budgets.

The body-worn camera program will continue to be evaluated for operational efficiency and effectiveness while keeping up to date on technological advancements. The budgetary demands of the annual costs and eventual replacement of the equipment will continue to be examined for cost effective solutions to maintain the program. Even though the program will continue to present challenges, the opportunity to support and improve relations while offering greater transparency between the police department and the public should not be over shadowed.