

**STAFF REPORT**

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**Date:** January 22, 2025

**To:** Mayor and City Council

**Through:** Jackie Bryant, City Manager

**Subject:** Staff Report (For Possible Action): Authorization to amend the City’s existing master services and purchasing agreement between the City of Reno and Axon Enterprises Inc to add additional in-car video recording systems (dashboard cameras) and related peripheral equipment, network, and data storage at an amount not to exceed \$47,000 per year for eight years in a total amount not to exceed \$376,000. (\$47,000 State Forfeiture Funds, \$329,000 General Funds)

**From:** Kathryn Nance, Chief of Police

**Department:** Police Department

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**Summary:**

Authorization to amend the City’s existing master services and purchasing agreement between the City of Reno and Axon Enterprises Inc to add fifteen additional in-car video recording systems (dashboard cameras) and related peripheral equipment, network, and data storage. These additional units are necessary to ensure that the City’s current fleet of patrol and prisoner transport vehicles are equipped with portable recording equipment. Currently, the cost for these additional units is estimated at \$43,819.83 per year for the remaining eight years of the agreement, totaling \$350,558.54. RPD is requesting authorization not to exceed \$376,000 to provide for small change order adjustments over the course of the agreement.

| <b>Consent Review</b>  | <b>Yes</b> | <b>No</b> |
|--|------------|-----------|
| 1. Is this item an annual or standard item that comes before Council for regular approval? |            | x         |
| 2. Is this item an agreement required based on an item previously approved by Council?     | x          |           |
| 3. Is this item included in the current budget approved and adopted by Council?            |            | x         |
| <b>Other Considerations</b>  |            |           |

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| What percent of the total City budget does this item represent? | <1% |
|---|-----|

**Alignment with Strategic Plan:**

Public Safety

**Previous Council Action:**

October 26, 2022 – City Council approved Resolution 9076, authorizing a medium-term obligation that provides the financing for a second amendment to the master services and purchasing agreement between the City of Reno and Axon Enterprises, Inc. regarding the purchase of body worn cameras, Tasers, fleet video, Axon interview, unlimited cloud storage for evidence.com, virtual reality training, redaction assistant, and additional miscellaneous Axon Software for the Reno Police.

August 11, 2021 – City Council approved Resolution No 8951 authorizing a medium-term obligation in an amount of up to \$1,200,000 for the first amendment to the master services and purchasing agreement between the City of Reno and Axon Enterprises, Inc. regarding the financing and maintaining in-car video recording devices (dashboard cameras) and related peripheral equipment, network, and data storage for the Reno Police Department.

February 18, 2021 - Washoe County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approved the reimbursement of costs incurred by the City of Reno for Year 1 costs associated with the Axon Enterprise, Inc. to purchase dashboard cameras.

January 21, 2021 - the Washoe County Regional 911 Emergency Response Advisory Committee recommended reimbursement to the City of Reno for an estimated total expenditure of \$507,024 to purchase Axon dashboard cameras.

March 12, 2019 - the BCC authorized a Joinder Contract to purchase Axon Fleet II in-car video and related supplies through the State of Nevada “3273 – Contract for Services of Independent Contractor” awarded to Axon Enterprise, Inc. (formerly Taser International), 17800 N. 85th St, Scottsdale, AZ, 85255.

March 28, 2018 – City Council approved Resolution No. 8518 authorizing a medium-term obligation in an amount of up to \$1,800,000 for the master services agreement with regard to financing and maintaining portable event recording devices with Axon Enterprises, Inc. related to body worn and vehicle camera systems, directing the officers of the City to forward materials to the Department of Taxation of the State of Nevada; and providing certain details in connection therewith.

February 20, 2018 - the BCC adopted the Washoe County Regional 911 Emergency Response Advisory Committee Five Year Master Plan as recommended by the 911 Emergency Response Advisory Committee.

January 16, 2018 - the BCC adopted the policy of the Use of 911 Surcharge Funds for the Body Camera Mandate set forth in Nevada Senate Bill 176.

**Background:**

Senate Bill (SB) 176 was passed during the 2017 Nevada Legislative Session which required all state and local law enforcement agencies, including the Reno Police Department and the Reno Court Marshal's service, to begin using portable event recording devices, more commonly called body worn cameras (BWC), as of July 1, 2018. The bill set forth a funding mechanism to provide for the cost of "purchasing and maintaining portable event recording devices," by allowing the County Commission to increase the 911 surcharge on telephone lines. These surcharges became effective on May 1, 2018.

The City of Reno approved the Master Services and Purchasing Agreement with Axon Enterprises, Inc. on March 28, 2018. The agreement was for Portable Event Recording Devices (BWC), peripheral equipment and data storage. With the executed agreement, the Reno Police Department successfully deployed a BWC program in April 2018, well ahead of the statutory mandate. These BWCs have proven to be valuable tools for law enforcement professionals and have been successful in providing evidence for criminal proceedings, administrative reviews pertaining to performance and discipline, and in providing essential elements of transparency to the public.

The City built upon the success of the BWC program by supporting the adoption of in-car video recording devices (dashboard cameras) and related peripheral equipment, network, and data storage for the Reno Police Department. The cameras capture footage inside and outside the vehicle and have the ability to pair BWC video with in-car video simultaneously. Council approved two amendments to the ten-year Master Services Agreement to provide for fleet cameras, product and software updates and replacements and additional Axon products and services. These units contribute to a more accurate account of events for prosecution, defense, juries, and the public.

The second amendment to the master services and purchasing agreement between the City of Reno and Axon Enterprises, Inc. was approved October 26, 2022. It provided for the purchase of body worn cameras, Tasers, fleet video, Axon Interview, unlimited cloud storage for evidence.com, virtual reality training, redaction assistant, and additional miscellaneous Axon Software for the Reno Police Department over a period of ten years. The total cost of the agreement was \$11,545,251.39. These costs were supported through a medium-term obligation and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. Unfortunately, this most recent amendment did not include a sufficient number in-car video recording systems to accommodate the City's current fleet of marked vehicles.

**Discussion:**

In-car video systems play a critical role in modern law enforcement, offering numerous benefits. These systems provide admissible evidence, reduce departmental liability, and enhance officer safety. The presence of video recording often encourages individuals to de-escalate potentially volatile situations, knowing their actions are being documented.

Perhaps most importantly, integrating in-car video systems with body-worn camera (BWC) footage fosters greater transparency and trust within the community. However, a gap currently exists in the Reno Police Department's deployment of this technology. Several marked vehicles, including a prisoner transport vehicle, lack in-car video systems. Notably, the absence of interior video capability in the transport vehicle limits its functionality and operational effectiveness.

This amendment seeks to address these shortcomings by ensuring that all RPD-marked vehicles are equipped with in-car video systems. Fully implementing this technology will enhance our ability to meet evidentiary, safety, and transparency goals, ultimately improving service delivery to the community.

**Financial Implications:**

The first year of this expense will be borne by State Forfeiture funds. For future years, this cost will be incorporated into the general fund budget request for the department.

**Legal Implications:**

Legal review completed for compliance with City procedures and Nevada law.

**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends Council approve the Third Amendment to the Master Services and Purchasing Agreement between the City of Reno and Axon Enterprises Inc. to add additional in-car video recording systems (dashboard cameras) and related peripheral equipment, network, and data storage in an amount not to exceed \$47,000 per year for eight years (\$376,000 in total) and authorize the Chief of Police to sign the necessary purchase orders.

**Proposed Motion:**

I move to approve staff recommendation and authorize the Chief of Police or her designee to sign the necessary purchase orders.

**Attachments:**

Axon Quote Q-601212-45660.801CN for Additional In-Car video recording devices (dashboard cameras)

Third amendment to master services and purchasing agreement between the City of Reno and Axon Enterprises Inc