

**2012 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent**

**Ready for Notebook**

Tab	Action	Option	Version
23	1	A	1

**Budget Action Title:** Police: Test of body-mounted video cameras

**Councilmembers:** Bagshaw; Harrell; O'Brien

**Staff Analyst:** Peter Harris

Date		Total	SB	BH	SC	TR	JG	NL	RC	TB	MO
	Yes										
	No										
	Abstain										
	Absent										

**Statement of Legislative Intent:**

In approving the budget for the Police Department, it is the Council’s intent that the Department test the use of body-mounted video cameras by police officers, and that this test inform the Mayor’s 2013 Proposed Budget.

This project will begin with a test of the cameras by officers in cars assigned to traffic enforcement. This phase will last 90 days. The next phase, also 90 days, will be a test of the cameras by patrol officers in the West Precinct. One objective of these phases is to compare the quality and content of videos recorded by the body-mounted cameras to those recorded by the cameras already installed in traffic and patrol cars. Another is to begin evaluating alternative protocols for managing the use of the cameras and recordings.

It is the Council’s intent that the Executive develop options for deploying body-mounted cameras soon enough to provide a basis for funding options for the 2013 Budget. The Council requests a written report from the Executive by the end of July on the results of the test. This report should describe the costs and benefits of any reasonable alternative deployments, so that the Council can evaluate this aspect of the 2013 Proposed Budget in its own deliberations.

The Council recognizes that the use of body-mounted video cameras may be subject to collective bargaining with the Seattle Police Officers’ Guild.

**Responsible Council Committee(s):** Public Safety and Education

**Date Due to Council:** July 31, 2012