

General Community Comments

How long will data be maintained

- Need for a City policy detailing how citizens can obtain footage, possibly outside of the City's FOIL process.
- Very important that the City maintains the footage itself and does not outsource the storing of it.
- Any breaches of the stored videos needs to be broadcast to the public.
- Verify the security of the storage also
- Quality of recording would determine amount of space needed
- Battery life also depends on use and video quality
- Is there storage for GPS location so you can tell where an officer was?
- Concerned over security of information. Are we on the newest technology to keep the data and video?
- How can you research patterns in officer behaviors if data is deleted?
- Original version of video would always be available
 - Can blur images
 - Redact portions
- The information should be tag – **Question:** "At what level will the information be given consideration?"
- A code or tag needs to be developed for each incident, along with a criteria that categorizes the crime or illegal activity.
- Research and evaluate all avenues as to what will be a cost effective way to have the information stored and maintained.
- Information should be maintained in order of occurrence and type of crime, so that monitoring and maintaining information can be categorized based on type of crime, or police activity/engagement.
- A process needs to be in place in tagging or compiling a profile of the information.
- Could we use car dash cameras as well?
 - Why are we skipping dash camera technology and going right to body worn cameras?
- Cameras will allow police personnel to be more accountable
- Buffering – camera is constantly on but only records from actual activation by officer
- Public should be able to register opinions/position about traffic stops, encounters that may indicate patterns of behavior
- Cameras should be assigned to specific officers only, no sharing
- Video should be available only for criminal cases and not private ligations.
- **Question:** "Who gets to see victim's home, possessions or personal valuables?" This information needs to be either edited or monitored when presented in court.
- Privacy issues of what is being displayed or shown in courtroom during proceedings.
- **Question:** "Is it expected that body cameras will collaborate or corroborate what the Police Officer is reporting?"
- **Question:** "What will be done with the video materials when there are multi-complaints against a Police Officer whose conduct is inappropriate?"
- **Question:** "How will Officer be held accountable if video shows Officer's misconduct?"
- **Question:** "How will privacy be determined when Officer(s) enters someone's home?"

- **Question:** "What if incriminating materials or equipment is out in the open in the victim's house, how will that be handled?"
- **Question:** "Will the process be transparent?"
- **Question:** "Who will have oversight of the process?"
- **Question:** "How will a citizen be informed of what he or she may have said or done that was captured by the video?" "What can be that person's recourse?"
- **Question:** "Who makes the determination or decision as to what is going to be edited or viewed in court; by District Attorney's office; Public Defender's office; by other police or law enforcement offices; defensive attorney?"
- **Question:** "Who will perform the edit?"
- When in his or her car, Police Officer's body camera should be on.
- **Question:** "It seems like the criminal mind is always a step ahead, how do we move or get around this barrier?"
- Need to have periodic or random reviews and evaluations on Police Officer who have issues of misconduct or behavioral complaints and capture on video.
- Police Officers should have body cameras on when they start their shifts until it ends.
- There should be safety checks (random or selected) to ensure that the equipment, information or other devices associated with the body camera have not been tampered with or damaged.
- Cameras need to be on for the Officer's entire tour.
- **Question:** "How are these cameras going to stay on the Police Officer, if he or she is in an altercation with a person or in an accident?"
- There should be an audit of a Police Officer's videos when he or she receives numerous complaints about his or her behavior or action with citizens.
- **Question:** "Will there be a holster or harness strap made specifically to hold the camera on the Officer's body?"
- There should be a device that activates the Police Officer's camera (either when he exits his car or enter and exits his or her home base building); the apparatus could be similar to a school or airport scanning/monitoring devices; or something install in the vehicle that when he or she exits it or returns the camera turns on and off.
- Camera should not record personal breaks or personal business of the Officer.
- Need to identify ways to inform the Police Officer when and how to turn the device on or off.
- **Question:** "What are the perceive shortcomings of this technology and what are the long-term advantages?"
- **Question:** "What are the citizen's rights with this type of technology?"
- Have car adapters for cameras to plug in and maintain battery life.
- If car adapter is cost prohibitive, then Officer should have easy access to turn it on or off.
- **Question:** "Will it be the Officer's discretion when to turn the device on or off?"
- **Question:** "Who is responsible for the information on the camera once it is turned off and surrendered?"
- **Question:** "Does the Officer turn his or her camera in at the end of his or her shifts?"
- **Question:** "Will a defendant's attorney have access to the information that was video with the defendant either committing a crime or doing something contrary to the allegations/charges filed against him or her?"
- **Question:** "Will a defensive attorney have to purchase software to view the information that was on video that either implicates his or her conte?"
- Cameras should be issued first to Police Officers who have complaints lodged against them for inappropriate behavior, language, conduct, or activity.

- The community should be made aware of the final decision about this type of surveillance and what are the accountability factors, process, procedures, restraints, restrictions and policies.
- This whole process needs to be transparent and community privacy issues or public disclosure (i.e. in courtroom, grand jury hearing, DA office, etc.) needs to be considered and the citizens rights should be kept in the forefront.
- Needs to be housed with the police, and/or in the District Attorney's Office, and/or in the Public Defender's Office, and/or maybe in the defendant's attorney office. All of the defendant's attorney(s) should have access to the video, especially if he or she changes attorneys during various appeals.
- A victim should also be able to view video.
- Former attorney needs to turn information/video over to the new attorney as soon as he or she is retained.
- The information should be kept safe either in a separate police department – preferably not in investigations but maybe in Chief's office or stored where there will be no bias or accidental erasing.
- It should not be considered the only or "all" evidence or conclusive proof.
- Information should not be altered or edited. Should be presented as video.

Off-topic: When can citizens opt out

- Citizens should be allowed access to the videos for free....when you are involved or if it was in your neighborhood
- When to turn on should not be at the officers discretion default should be on, during street interactions, when out on patrol (out of car)
- LE should have some discretion if turned on
- Policy/procedure/guidelines dictate
 - Depends upon severity of the situation
 - Presumption of innocence
 - Right to inquire
- Can citizen request to have camera on
- Age limitations?
- Blur image/audio only
- Filming inside home can show details of valuables – entries
- Jurors, courtroom observers, medial – FOIL
- Citizens knowing their rights
- Can a recording be deleted on the spot?
- Citizen(s) s/b part of the policy-making
- Preferably a member of the Coalition for police Reform
- One concern is tampering
- Officer should always make citizens aware of rights before-hand
- Officer should not restrict citizens from recording even if the officer is recording
- Independent Review Board should be establish and it should be City based residents
- Citizens directly involved s/b able to access data without a FOIL request.
- When person being filed is a minor... will RPD need parent's permission to use?
- Will it be possible to deny access to video by public or other people, if someone else who is not on the video requests it?
- Will access to the videos be limited to only certain people?

- Will the videos be open to FOIL? If so, redaction technology will be important to have.
- How will ride-alongs be treated? Via a waiver signed before the ride-along starts?
- What if the video is used as evidence in a crime? Will it be used like any other evidence is used right now?
- What happens if there is a complaint by a citizen and it is found that the officer did not document the incident in his/her report... Can the video be pulled up to check out the citizen's story?

Off-topic: Who will be able to see the data

- Like memory, film serves as evidence or testimony and can bear witness in court. Requesting that the camera be turned off puts one at risk of loss of evidence that could be valuable in a person's case or creates loopholes that wouldn't normally exist. Cameras shouldn't be allowed to be turned off.
- Will it be a cost to view the footage?
- If used for evidence, will the footage be withheld for a period of time?
- People who give information to the police, will they be subject to retribution from another party?
- A review board should be formed and consist of: an independent firm, police, and community members. All the above should reside in the City of Rochester.
- Look at the subsection of the civil rights law (50A) which speaks to: withholding information that will endanger police officer's employment.
- Should body cameras only be used within the limit of that particular situation?
- Is there potential for the data from the body cameras to be used for disparities among people of color in the judicial system?
- A review/clarity of the definitions of access and release pertaining to the body cameras
- Why does the data become public record?
 - Is there a greater or lesser expectation of privacy due to the format (data versus written report)?
- Will the data be moved into a confidential file (50A) and become unreachable?
 - Will it be accessible though a FOIA/FOIL request?
- Would there be immediate access to the data for defense attorneys and prosecutors?
 - Will there be a new and/or different way of requesting access, and will the requests be on public record?
- 50A of the Civil Rights Law. Concerns that this will be used by RPD to prevent release of video under the guise of "personnel/discipline" matters and privacy.
- IS the footage treated like any other evidence? Largely yes.
- It seems like nationwide even when a video is available, the police officer still always comes out the 'winner.'
- The PP presentation should say that the video will capture officers behaving badly, not just protect officers.
- Some are still skeptical that the RPD will be truly transparent
- Diversity in the RPD is still an important issue and will lend more credibility to the transparency issue.
- To ensure that video is not reviewed by or tampered with by police, we should use technology barriers, such as "hash" and "checksum" to ensure the video is verifiable.
- The Officers should not have an off switch available.
- RPD should not be the custodian of the footage.

- A review board should collect the data. The board should be made up of civilians.
- Law 50A – does not allow the release of police information to be used in courts if the outcome affects their employment (this information was hearsay and much debate took place on what it actually meant). If true, we need to change this law so data obtained can be used in a court of law.
- Sensitivity of recordings should be blocked (children, nudity...)
- There should be a safeguard in place so cameras are not tampered with.
- Cameras should be on at all times.
- The blurring of innocent people should be done when releasing recordings.
- There should be some form of login/out when police officers turn on/off their cameras.
- We should also consider dash-mounted cameras.

Off-topic: When should the camera be on/off

- There should be severe penalties if the officer does not have the camera on when he/she should.
- Assume officer is guilty if the camera is off
- Make sure there are multiple cameras/batteries as needed to film the entire shift.
- If rules make it too easy for the officer to turn the camera off, it negates the goal of transparency.
- Every city that has implemented body cameras has seen a reduction in the number of complaints of excessive force used by officers.
- Cameras will add professionalism back to the police force. So that people are treated humanely.
- If you're not doing anything wrong (officers), why do you care if cameras are on?
- Can cameras be set to turn back on a set time after being turned off (15 minutes etc)