

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORT Public Safety Committee

Date: May 23, 2016

Agenda Item # 4:

4:30 PM Staff briefing, invited testimony, and policy discussion regarding releasing video from Austin Police Department body worn cameras.

(Notes: SPONSOR: Council Member Don Zimmerman, CO 1: Council Member Ora Houston).

Vote

This Committee recommends that the Austin Police Department and the Office of the Police Monitor continue to review the body camera video release policy with a commitment to transparency, individual rights, and fairness to police officers and the public. The Austin Police Department and the Office of the Police Monitor continue to convene meetings with community stakeholders during the development of any policy changes, and that community stakeholders, Austin Police Department and Office of the Police Monitor present the results of this process to City Council within 120 days. Council Member Casar clarified that this will be a recommendation to be passed along to Council at that same meeting when they will be voting on the policy. Motion made by Council Member Casar, seconded by Council Member Pool, motion moved 3/0 with Council Member Houston off the dais; however she had expressed support.

Sponsors/Department: Council Member Don Zimmerman, CO 1: Council Member Ora Houston / Austin Police Department

Summary of Discussion

Discussed release of body camera video and policy. The APD body camera policy has been approved and implemented within the department. Council Member Pool encouraged APD Commander Reyes to have an open dialog with entities regarding the release of procedures. Speakers asked for APD to have transparency with citizens regarding the policy and procedures.

Public Comments

Quianna Canada – For

Antonio Buehler – Neutral

Fatima Mann – Against

Matt Simpson – Neutral

Debbie Russell – Neutral

Kathy Mitchell – For

Direction: *See Vote above.*

Recommendation: See Vote above.