City of Asheville Staff Report

City Council Meeting Date:

- June 23, 2026

Staff Resources:

- Jackie Stepp - APD Interim Police Chief
- Elise Lewis - APD Financial Business Manager
- Keith Leader - Fleet Division Manager

Action Requested:

- Adoption of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to approve Cooperative Contracts for Axon Fleet purchases of $90,000 or more for new vehicle upfits, utilizing the pricing offered through the active Charlotte Cooperative Purchasing Alliance (CCPA), OMNIA, or Sourcewell Cooperatives, with a total not to exceed $900,000 over the course of a 7-year cooperative contract.

Background:

- The City's Fleet Division annually replaces aging Asheville Police Department vehicles through the City's vehicle replacement program.
- The number of replacement vehicles purchased each year is determined through the City's fleet procurement process.
- New police vehicles must be equipped with standard law enforcement equipment, including Axon Fleet in-car camera systems. These systems include cameras, mounting hardware, installation, warranties, software licensing, and cloud storage.
- APD estimates that approximately 20–30 replacement vehicles will be purchased annually. Based on current pricing, the estimated annual cost for Axon Fleet systems is $70,000–$105,000.
- Fleet funding covers the cost of camera hardware, installation, and warranties. APD funding covers ongoing software licensing and cloud storage costs.
- Axon Fleet systems are procured through competitively awarded cooperative purchasing contracts, including the Charlotte Cooperative Purchasing Alliance (CCPA), OMNIA Partners, and Sourcewell.
- Under the City's purchasing policy, contracts valued at $90,000 or more require Council approval.
- This request is separate from the technology initiatives previously presented to Council. Because Fleet purchases the mounting hardware and cameras for the original upfit of new vehicles, the purchase of this equipment was not included in the product bundle described in a previous presentation related to Axon equipment.
- It does not authorize new technology or expand existing technology capabilities. It provides a contracting mechanism to equip replacement police vehicles with the same in-car camera systems currently in use.

Vendor Outreach:

- Not applicable. Pricing is offered through the Charlotte Cooperative Purchasing Alliance (CCPA), OMNIA, and Sourcewell Cooperatives. Due diligence will be performed for each

contract to ensure all items are included in the active cooperative contract in use at the time of the City's contract execution.

Council Vision 2036 Focus Area(s):

- Financially Resilient City

Council Priority Recovery Area(s):

- NA

Committee(s):

- None

Fiscal Impact:

- This is a standard purchase and is included in the annual Operating Budget for Fleet (hardware/installation/warranties) and APD (licenses/cloud storage).

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to approve Cooperative Contracts for Axon Fleet purchases of $90,000 or more for new vehicle upfits, utilizing the pricing offered through the active Charlotte Cooperative Purchasing Alliance (CCPA), OMNIA, or Sourcewell Cooperatives, with a total not to exceed $900,000 over the course of a 7-year cooperative contract.

Attachment(s):

- Resolution

City of Asheville Resolution Number 26-___

Resolution authorizing the City Manager to approve Cooperative Contracts for Axon Fleet purchases of $90,000 or more for new vehicle upfits, utilizing the pricing offered through the active Charlotte Cooperative Purchasing Alliance (CCPA), OMNIA or Sourcewell Cooperatives,with a total not to exceed $900,000 over the course of a 7 year cooperative contract.

Whereas, pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes Section 143-129(e)(3), the City is authorized to make purchases through an exception to the bidding statutes from competitive bidding group purchasing programs; and

Whereas, the active Charlotte Cooperative Purchasing Alliance (CCPA), OMNIA, and Sourcewell Cooperatives are all formally organized programs that offer competitively obtained purchasing services at discount prices to two or more public agencies, as required by the statutory exception cited above; and

Whereas, APD intends to enter into cooperative contracts for the purchase and installation of Axon Fleet cameras as standard equipment in all new police vehicles; and

Whereas, City policy requires all contracts of $90,000 or more be approved by Council; and

Whereas, APD is requesting approval, granted in the form of a resolution, authorizing the City Manager to approve contracts priced at $90,000 or more for the in-car Fleet cameras for new fleet vehicles without requiring Council approval each time; and

Whereas, based on an estimation of yearly vehicle acquisition totals and costs of upfitting under the current cooperative contracts, this authorization extends to a total amount not to exceed $900,000 over the course of the 7 year contract.

Now, Therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Asheville that:

The City Manager is authorized to approve Cooperative Contracts for Axon Fleet purchases of $90,000 or more for new vehicle upfits, utilizing the pricing offered through the active Charlotte Cooperative Purchasing Alliance (CCPA), OMNIA or Sourcewell Cooperatives, with a total not to exceed $900,000 over the course of a 7 year cooperative contract..

Read, approved and adopted this the 23rd day of June, 2026.

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Esther E. Manheimer, Mayor

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Brad Branham, City Attorney

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Magdalen Burleson, City Clerk