President's Workgroup on Madison Police Department Use of Deadly Force, De-Escalation and Body-Worn Cameras Policies and Procedures

Work Plan

Body-Worn Camera Policy

Expert interviews and public input	Public listening session	Drafting Body-Worn Camera policy	Introduction of resolution	BCC review of draft policy	Common Council adoption of BWC policy
9/25-10/30	10/29	11/1-12/7	12/8	12/9-1/11	1/12/2027
10/30-1/30	JAN 2027	FEB 2027	2/23/27	2/24-3/29	3/30/2027
Expert interviews and public input	Public listening session	Drafting policies	Introduction of resolution	BCC review of draft policy	Common Council adoption of policy

Deadly Force & De-escalation SOP's & Training

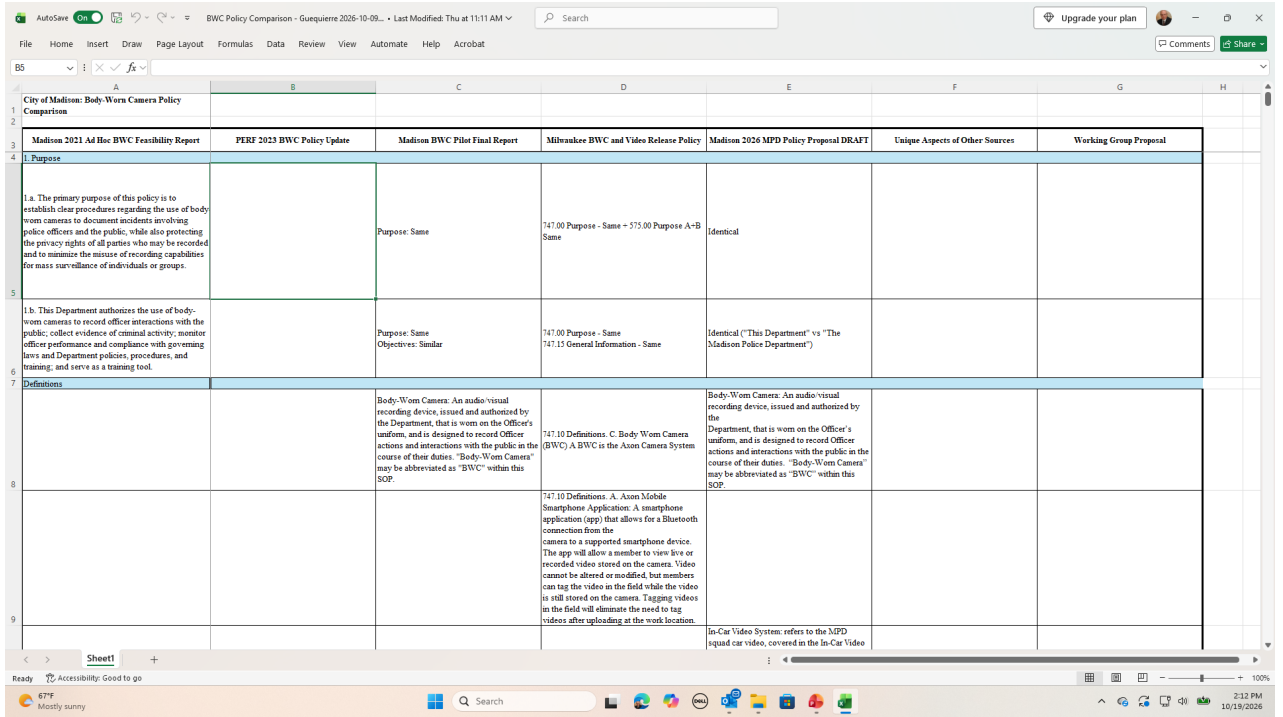


What We’ve Done So Far

Studied & Compared Prior Work

- 2021 Madison Ad Hoc Committee on BWC Feasibility (starting point)
- 2022 Police Executive Research Forum updated BWC policy recommendations
- Madison BWC Pilot Project Policy
- Milwaukee BWC and Video Release Policies
- Madison Sept 30 Draft BWC Policy
- Unique elements from other model and implemented policies (ACLU, Seattle)

Compared and Noted Differences



City of Madison: Body-Worn Camera Policy Comparison

Madison 2021 Ad Hoc BWC Feasibility Report	PERF 2023 BWC Policy Update	Madison BWC Pilot Final Report	Milwaukee BWC and Video Release Policy	Madison 2026 MPD Policy Proposal DRAFT	Unique Aspects of Other Sources	Working Group Proposal
I. Purpose						
I.a. The primary purpose of this policy is to establish clear procedures regarding the use of body worn cameras to document incidents involving police officers and the public, while also protecting the privacy rights of all parties who may be recorded and to minimize the misuse of recording capabilities for mass surveillance of individuals or groups.		Purpose: Same	747.00 Purpose - Same + 575.00 Purpose A+B Same	Identical		
I.b. This Department authorizes the use of body-worn cameras to record officer interactions with the public; collect evidence of criminal activity; monitor officer performance and compliance with governing laws and Department policies, procedures, and training; and serve as a training tool.		Purpose: Same Objectives: Similar	747.00 Purpose - Same 747.15 General Information - Same	Identical ("This Department" vs "The Madison Police Department")		
Definitions						
		Body-Worn Camera: An audio/visual recording device, issued and authorized by the Department, that is worn on the Officer's uniform, and is designed to record Officer actions and interactions with the public in the course of their duties. "Body-Worn Camera" may be abbreviated as "BWC" within this SOP.	747.10 Definitions. C. Body Worn Camera (BWC) A BWC is the Axon Camera System	Body-Worn Camera: An audio/visual recording device, issued and authorized by the Department, that is worn on the Officer's uniform, and is designed to record Officer actions and interactions with the public in the course of their duties. "Body-Worn Camera" may be abbreviated as "BWC" within this SOP.		
			747.10 Definitions. A. Axon Mobile Smartphone Application: A smartphone application (app) that allows for a Bluetooth connection from the camera to a supported smartphone device. The app will allow a member to view live or recorded video stored on the camera. Video cannot be altered or modified, but members can tag the video in the field while the video is still stored on the camera. Tagging videos in the field will eliminate the need to tag videos after uploading at the work location.			
				In-Car Video System: refers to the MPD squad car video, covered in the In-Car Video		

Interviewed Experts and Staff

- UW-Madison Prof. Keith Finley – Advisor to 2021 Feasibility Study
- Jennifer Sommers – Police Executive Research Forum Deputy Director
- Leon Todd – Milwaukee Fire & Police Commission Deputy Director
- Dr. Greg Gelembiuk – Madison PCOB Data Analyst
- MPD Assistant Chiefs Matt Tye and Paige Valenta
- MPD Records Manager Simone Munson
- Bill Lueders – Wisconsin Freedom of Information Council
- Bridget Fargen – WMTV News Director

More Interviews Coming

- Former MPD Chief Noble Wray (October 30, 2026)
- Former MPD Chief David Couper (November 9, 2026)
- Milwaukee Police Department Chief of Staff Heather Hough (October 30, 2026)
- Dr. Ian Adams, University of South Carolina (October 30, 2026)
- Invitation: Dane County District Attorney Ismael Ozanne
- Invitation: Department of Criminal Investigations representative
- Invitation: ACLU

- And thanks to Madison residents who attended Workgroup meetings and offered useful suggestions

Decisions to be Made

Major Agreement Among Studies and Policies

- Only a few major questions among competing provisions
- We will probably propose separate Standard Operating Procedures for BWC use and release of video

Four Open Questions

1. Deadline for public release of video
2. Redaction fee for release of video for commercial use
3. Release to Independent Monitor
4. Capturing strategy discussions before an arrest

Thank You!