

**CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

September 21, 2016

No. 16-26

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**A RESOLUTION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WORKGROUP TO MAKE  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICIES ON OFFICER  
WORN BODY CAMERAS**

- WHEREAS, the protests resulting from recent high-profile shootings of African American men in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and Falcon Heights, Minnesota highlight the distrust that exists across racial and ethnic lines; and
- WHEREAS, the senseless murders of five Dallas, Texas police officers assigned to keep safe and protect peaceful Black Lives Matter protestors in the City's downtown area demonstrate the very real dangers faced by officers because they are officers; and
- WHEREAS, communities, such as Falcon Heights, St. Anthony, and Lauderdale must recognize the need to critically balance the enforcement of law with effective, fair and transparent police services; and
- WHEREAS, despite a Constitution that considers all people equal, profound disparities exist for African Americans and other people of color across the United States, including Minnesota; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Falcon Heights has identified racial equity as a community value with the standard expectation being fair and equitable service delivery to all people who live, work, or visit Falcon Heights; and
- WHEREAS, it is recognized that of all the services provided by the City, police services by their very nature, have the greatest potential to result in controversy and grow distrust; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Falcon Heights values and honors the critical role of our police officers in enhancing the safety and quality of life for the community; and
- WHEREAS, it is widely recognized that communities receive the kind of policing they demand and as the policymakers representing the whole of Falcon Heights, we endeavor to provide the most effective, fair, and transparent police services possible.


NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that to foster effective, fair, and transparent police services, the City of Falcon Heights along with the cities of Lauderdale and St. Anthony shall establish a Workgroup made up of a diverse cadre of Lauderdale, St. Anthony, and Falcon Heights residents to make recommendations for Police Department policies on officer worn body cameras and further directs that:

- The City Administrator solicit letters of interest from Falcon Heights residents willing and able to serve as a member of the Workgroup, as soon as practicable;
- Following a reasonable application period, the City Administrator shall present the Council copies of the letters of interest from applicants for review and final selection;
- The Workgroup shall consist of two residents each from Falcon Heights.
- From the final Workgroup membership, the Mayors will select one member to serve as Co-Chair, along with the Police Chief;
- The City Council shall select two Council Members to serve on Workgroup;
- The Police Chief shall make available members of the department considered subject matter experts or other resources, as may be needed;
- The Workgroup co-chairs will establish meeting agendas in cooperation with the Workgroup membership to provide substantive background information, a review of current practices, and the department's current policies and related training protocols;
- Upon completion of its work, the Workgroup shall make recommendations to the Police Chief regarding officer worn body cameras;
- The Police Chief shall provide a written report to the City Administrators and Workgroup members detailing the integration of the Workgroup's recommendations into police department policy;
- Should certain recommendations or elements of recommendations not be adopted, the Police Chief shall provide a written rationale for the decision. The City Administrator will present the report to the City Council.

Moved by: Harris

Approved by:   
Peter Lindstrom  
Mayor

LINDSTROM 5 In Favor  
BROWN THUNDER  
HARRIS 2 Against  
FISCHER  
GUSTAFSON

Attested by:   
Sack Thongvanh  
City Administrator