FORM GEN. 160

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

Memo No. 150

Date: May 07, 2026

To: Budget and Finance Committee

From: Matthew W. Szabo, City Administrative Officer

Subject: **POLICE – AXON CONTRACT SCOPE OF WORK AND COST ANALYSIS**

APPLICABLE BUDGET THEMES:

[ ] Fulfills legal obligations
[ ] Improves accessibility requirements
[X] Supports public safety
[ ] Relates to proposed position or expense account eliminations
[ ] The above themes do not apply

RECOMMENDATION

This Office recommends to note and file this report as it is provided for informational purposes only.

DISCUSSION

The Budget and Finance Committee requested a report on the scope of work for the technology contract and the additional features in the proposed extension that go into effect on August 1, 2026. The Committee also requested a cost analysis comparing each feature in the existing agreement with the proposed changes, as well as options to renegotiate the contract to achieve greater cost-effectiveness, including a comparison to pricing offered by other vendors. In addition, the Committee directed the Department to address data-sharing procedures and to explain how Artificial Intelligence (AI) assisted reports are reviewed and verified to ensure accuracy.

The Police Department's (LAPD) response (Attachment) addresses each of these questions below.

Scope of Work and Costs
The Department's current Axon agreements cover body-worn cameras, TASER 7 devices, and digital in-car video. The TASER 7 platform is now outdated; the Department reports that Axon's newer TASER 10 offers major improvements, nearly double the range, providing ten probes instead of four, and adjustable probe spread. The Attachment details the justification for upgrading from TASER 7 to 10 as part of the proposed contract renewal. A second Axon contract covers the Fleet 3 in-car video system. The 2025-26 budget allocated $8 million for all Axon-related contracts.

The Department and Axon finalized a ten-year renewal beginning August 1, 2026, after five months of negotiation. The agreement bundles hardware, software, and services at a 37.65 percent discount, producing $130 million in savings from the $344 million list price. The final ten-year cost, including tax, is $221.3 million. For Year 1, the Proposed Budget includes $17.013 million, combining $8 million from the 2025-26 base budget, $7 million in new 2026-27 funding, and $2.013 million restored from prior cuts. This results in a $9.013 million additional appropriation for 2026-27. Year-to-year costs will fluctuate because Axon is providing some software and services at no cost in Year 1 and because the Department chose to defer part of the early-year payments. Future budget cycles will need additional funding appropriations to maintain the payment schedule.

Features Included in the Proposed Contract Renewal with Axon
The Attachment provides a detailed breakdown of the features included in the proposed contract.

Options to Renegotiate the Contract for Cost-Effectiveness and Comparison to Other Companies
The Department asserts that a competitive re-bid of the Axon contract would not produce cost savings. Axon is the sole manufacturer of the TASER conducted-energy weapon, leaving no comparable vendors for price comparison. While other companies offer individual technologies such as body-worn cameras or digital evidence systems, shifting away from Axon would require replacing the City's extensive infrastructure investments, including hard-wired docking stations across 40 facilities, more than 14 petabytes of digital evidence stored in Evidence.com, and in-car video systems installed in over 1,600 vehicles.

The Department also notes it secured a 37.65 percent discount, $130 million in savings over ten years, after extensive negotiations, with pricing confirmed as the most favorable available to an agency of comparable size. Given the lack of competitors, the City's deep integration with Axon systems, and the high cost and risk of transitioning to another vendor, the Department suggests that renegotiating with alternative companies would not be cost-effective.

Data Sharing Procedures
The proposed renewal establishes clear rules for how LAPD data is owned, stored, and shared within the Axon system. All material generated by LAPD personnel, such as body-worn video, transcripts, reports, Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) data, and evidence, remains exclusively owned by the City and LAPD, with Axon receiving no rights to use or license it. All data is stored in the Axon Evidence platform on the Criminal Justice Information Services compliant Microsoft Azure Government Cloud, with full encryption in transit and at rest.

The agreement guarantees free data export, ensuring LAPD can retrieve all content at any time without egress fees. Any sharing with other agencies, including ALPR or evidence transfers, must follow LAPD policy and applicable MOAs, and occur only with explicit authorization under state and federal law. Axon is prohibited from providing LAPD data to any third party, including commercial entities or other government agencies, without LAPD approval.

Verification of AI-assisted Reports for Accuracy and Accountability
The Department's Attachment details how the proposed contract establishes strict safeguards to ensure AI-assisted tools enhance efficiency without replacing human judgment. Officers must personally review, correct, and sign off on every Draft One report, and the system can only draw from body-worn camera audio or officer narration, preventing speculations or added details.

Accuracy is further supported through side-by-side comparisons of drafts, transcripts, and video before submission. All AI-generated content undergoes supervisory review, and every action is captured in a tamper-evident audit trail within Axon Evidence. The Attachment provides detailed specifications for the Prepared Assistive AI Platform, Draft One, Auto-Transcribe, and Respond+ systems, outlining their capabilities and technical features.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

This memorandum is provided for informational purposes only. There is no fiscal impact.

FINANCIAL POLICY COMPLIANCE

The recommendation in this memorandum complies with the City's Financial Policies.

MWS:LMP:04260160

Question No. 369

Attachments

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

JIM McDONNELL
Chief of Police

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May 6, 2026

The Honorable Budget and Finance Committee
Office of the City Clerk
200 North Spring Street, Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Subject: Budget and Finance Committee Question No. 369

Honorable Members:

In conjunction with the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-2027 Budget deliberations, your Committee requested a comprehensive report on the scope of work encompassed by the Los Angeles Police Department's (LAPD/Department) contract with Axon Enterprise, Inc., including the additional capabilities and technology features incorporated in the proposed contract renewal effective August 1, 2026. The Committee further requested a detailed cost analysis for each feature under the current contract and the proposed amendment, as well as a description of data-sharing procedures and the verification protocols governing Artificial Intelligence (AI)-assisted police reports for accuracy and accountability. The following addresses each of these questions.

BACKGROUND: CURRENT AXON CONTRACTS — BODY-WORN CAMERAS, TASER 7 AND DIGITAL IN-CAR VIDEO

The Department currently operates under an Axon Enterprise, Inc. contract (C-127706-2) that provides Body-Worn Camera (BWC) hardware and software, digital evidence management through the Axon Evidence platform, and the TASER 7 conducted energy weapon. The TASER 7 is an older-generation platform, superseded by the TASER 10, which offers substantially enhanced capabilities, including nearly double the effective deployment range (up to 45 feet compared to the TASER 7's approximately 25-foot maximum), ten deployable probes versus four, and user-controlled probe spread technology. A separate Executive Summary draft for this Committee, which is attached, addresses the justification for upgrading to the TASER 10 as part

of the proposed contract renewal.

A separate Axon contract (C-140744) includes the Fleet 3/Digital In-Car Video System (DICVS) for in-vehicle camera systems. However, as detailed in the budget analysis below, funding for Fleet 3/DICVS was entirely eliminated in prior budget cycles, leaving the Department without budget authority for this contractual obligation.

CURRENT AXON BUDGET: FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 APPROPRIATION

The FY 2025-2026 adopted budget for the Axon contracts is $8 million.

PROPOSED CONTRACT RENEWAL: COST ANALYSIS — AXON 2026 RENEWAL (EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2026)

On April 10, 2026, Axon Enterprise, Inc. and the Department reached a final agreement on pricing and scope after five months of negotiations. The agreement is for a ten-year contract renewal covering the period from August 1, 2026, through July 31, 2036 (with Year 1 commencing August 1, 2026). The proposal reflects a comprehensive bundle of hardware, software, and services, negotiated at a total discount of 37.65% below list price — representing combined savings of $130 million from list price through bundled volume discounts and additional negotiated reductions. The heavily discounted price required the direct involvement of Axon's Chief Financial Officer (CFO) in negotiations and approval. It should also be noted that the United States (U.S.) Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers recorded a cumulative compound inflation rate of 26% between 2020 and 2025; therefore, there is an increase in the cost of a contract executed in 2026 compared to 2020.

Total Ten-Year List Price: $344,393,863.29
Bundled Savings: $63,630,958.54
Additional Discount: $66,043,986.19
Total Discount Percentage: 37.65%
Total Ten-Year Net Price (After Discounts): $214,718,918.56
Estimated Tax (Ten Years): $6,580,189.44
Total Ten-Year Net Cost with Tax: $221,299,108.00

The Department is seeking approval, as recommended by the Mayor's Proposed Budget, of $17,013,000 for the Year 1 costs of the comprehensive Axon technology package:

- $8,000,000 from the FY 2025-2026 base budget
- $7,000,000 additional for the FY 2026-2027
- $2,013,000 restored from one-time cuts in 2024-25 and 2025-26

The total additional appropriation requested for FY 2026-2027, including restoration and the new contract costs, is $9,013,000.

The Axon contract will show year-over-year variation in the proposed contract cost reflecting

two factors. First, the negotiation process resulted in Axon providing certain software and services at zero cost during Year 1, which reduces the Year 1 net cost relative to subsequent years. Second, the proposed Year 1 funding level reflects a decision made during the FY 2026-2027 budget development process to defer a portion of contract costs into subsequent fiscal years. The Department notes that the proposed funding for FY 2026-2027 is structured to defer a portion of contract costs into subsequent years. Future budget cycles will require additional appropriations beyond the current request to maintain the contract payment schedule. The Department remains open to alternative payment structures that may be directed during contract approval, including a more uniform payment schedule across the contract term.

FEATURES INCLUDED IN THE PROPOSED CONTRACT RENEWAL

The following capabilities are included in the proposed ten-year Axon contract bundle. Features marked as included (✓) are part of the negotiated bundle at no additional cost beyond the contract price. Features listed without a checkmark reflect specific configurations included in the custom program:

Product / Feature	Included in Bundle	Notes
TASER 10 — Conducted Energy Weapon	✓	Replaces TASER 7 (older-generation platform)
TASER 10 Certification Plan	Standard	Officer qualification training
Axon Virtual Reality (VR) Training	VR Skills	Virtual reality use-of-force scenario training
Axon Body Camera with Taser Activation Profile (TAP)	✓	Body-worn camera (BWC) with Taser Activation Profile
Axon Evidence — Digital Evidence Management	✓	Cloud-based evidence storage and management
Unlimited 1P (First-Party) Storage	✓	Unlimited Axon-device video storage
Command Staff Pro License	✓	Executive-level access and oversight tools
Third-Party Video Storage	100 GB per user	Storage for non-Axon video sources
Axon Fusus — Real Time Crime Center Integration	Pro Plus	Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) platform; integrates ALPR, CCTV, drone feeds
Auto-Tagging	✓	Automated evidence categorization
Unlimited Transcription (Auto-Transcribe)	✓	AI transcription of all BWC and audio evidence; 65-75% time savings on evidence review
Draft One — AI-Assisted Report Writing	✓	First-draft report narratives from BWC audio; force multiplier for officer time
Fleet — In-Car Video System (DICVS)	✓	In-vehicle camera system; previously zeroed from budget
Prepared — AI-Assisted 911	✓	Real-time transcription, translation (30+

Call-Taking & Dispatch		languages), non-emergency call AI triage

OPTIONS TO RENEGOTIATE THIS CONTRACT TO BE MORE COST-EFFECTIVE AND COMPARE COSTS TO OTHER COMPANIES

In response to the Committee's inquiry regarding competitive vendor analysis, TASER conducted energy weapons (CEW) are manufactured exclusively by Axon Enterprise, Inc. No other vendor produces a comparable CEW platform. The TASER is not a commodity item available from competing suppliers; it is a proprietary technology for which Axon holds the intellectual property, manufacturing capacity, and certification infrastructure. Accordingly, any comparison to alternative CEW vendors is inapplicable, as none exist in the commercial law enforcement marketplace.

With respect to the broader Axon ecosystem, such as body-worn cameras, digital evidence management, in-car video, and AI-assisted tools, the Department acknowledges that competing vendors offer some of these capabilities individually. However, the Committee must weigh any such comparison against the extraordinary and irreversible investment the City of Los Angeles has made in Axon infrastructure over the course of the Department's relationship with Axon since 2016. That investment includes the following:

- Hundreds of docking station installations across 40 LAPD facilities throughout the City of Los Angeles, each hardwired into the Department's network infrastructure with permanent cabling, server integration, and station-specific configuration. These installations represent tens of millions of dollars in capital expenditure for hardware, labor, network buildout, and facility modification which are costs that are entirely sunk and non-recoverable. Migrating to a competing platform would require the complete removal and replacement of this infrastructure at every facility, at the City's expense, with no residual value from the existing installations.

- Over 14 petabytes of digital evidence are currently stored within Axon's Evidence.com platform comprising body-worn camera footage, in-car video recordings, interview recordings, and other evidentiary materials accumulated over nearly a decade of active use. This digital evidence is active, legally discoverable, and subject to ongoing retention obligations under California law. Migration of this volume of data to a competing platform would require a data transfer and re-indexing effort of extraordinary scale, cost, and risk, with no guarantee of format compatibility, chain-of-custody preservation, or continuity of access during transition. The litigation exposure alone from a botched or incomplete evidence migration would be substantial. Moreover, there is already a sharing ecosystem between the LAPD and our criminal justice partners in the City Attorney's Office, District Attorney's Office and Public Defender's Office that would be severely impacted by a digital evidence management system change.

- Over 1,600 LAPD vehicles are equipped with Axon Fleet in-car video systems, each requiring the physical installation of cameras, wiring harnesses, in-car hardware, and integration with the Department's CAD and evidence management systems. A vendor transition would require removing and replacing hardware in each of these vehicles — a project involving thousands of hours of fleet downtime, labor, and procurement costs that would dwarf the incremental difference in any competitive bid.

- Thousands of hours of officer training are invested in Axon's Evidence.com platform, the TASER certification program, and related tools. This institutional knowledge, embedded across the Department's sworn and professional staff, cannot be transferred to a new platform without a full retraining initiative with significant costs and operational disruption that must be counted as a cost in any vendor transition.

The Department further notes that Axon maintains an open Application Programming Interface (API) policy, provided at no cost to the City, which allows LAPD's technology ecosystem — including the Real Time Crime Center software platform, Axon Fusus, Prepared, and other integrated solutions — to communicate and share data seamlessly across all systems. This interoperability is not incidental; it is foundational to the Department's technology strategy and the force-multiplication capabilities described throughout this report. Competing vendors do not universally offer open APIs, and in many cases charge significant licensing fees for integration access or require proprietary middleware that introduces additional cost, complexity, and points of failure.

Finally, the Department wishes to assure the Committee that the net contract price reflected in this proposal was not accepted at face value. The Department engaged in intensive, protracted negotiations with Axon Enterprise, Inc. over an extended period, resulting in a total negotiated discount of 37.65% below the list price, representing combined city and taxpayer savings of $130 million over the ten-year contract term. Independent market analysis and peer agency comparisons conducted during the negotiation process confirm that the per-unit and per-user pricing secured by the Department represents the most favorable pricing available to any agency of comparable scale in the U.S.. The City of Los Angeles, as one of Axon's largest municipal partners, is uniquely positioned to leverage its volume and relationship to secure pricing that smaller agencies cannot obtain, and that competitive advantage is fully reflected in the agreement before the Committee.

For all of the foregoing reasons, a competitive re-bid of the Axon contract would not yield a financially beneficial outcome for the City. To the contrary, it would expose the City to hundreds of millions of dollars in transition costs, operational disruption, litigation risk from evidence migration, and the permanent loss of a fully integrated, citywide public safety technology infrastructure that has taken nearly a decade to build.

DATA-SHARING PROCEDURES

The proposed Axon contract renewal incorporates data governance provisions governing the access, use, transfer, and storage of all Department-generated data within the Axon ecosystem. Key data-sharing provisions include the following:

Data Ownership: All data generated by LAPD officers and personnel through Axon platforms, including body-worn camera footage, transcripts, reports, ALPR data, and evidence files, remains the exclusive property of the City of Los Angeles and the LAPD. Axon Enterprise, Inc. does not acquire ownership or licensing rights to any LAPD-generated data.

Data Storage and Security: All evidence, transcripts, and records are stored within the Axon Evidence platform, built on the Microsoft Azure Government Cloud, which maintains Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) compliance, which is the federal security standard required for all law enforcement criminal justice data. Data is fully encrypted at rest and in transit.

Data Portability and Egress: The Department has negotiated provisions ensuring that all data stored within Axon platforms is exportable by the Department at any time without incurring data egress fees. This ensures that the City of Los Angeles retains full access to its own data independent of any future vendor relationship.

Inter-Agency Sharing: Data sharing with other law enforcement agencies, including Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) data shared through Axon Fusus and evidence shared via Axon Evidence is governed by LAPD Department Manual provisions and applicable Memoranda of Agreement (MOA). No data is shared with third-party agencies without LAPD authorization and in compliance with applicable California and federal law.

Third-Party Access Prohibition: Axon is contractually prohibited from sharing, selling, or providing access to any LAPD data to any third party, including advertisers, commercial entities, or other government agencies outside of explicit LAPD authorization. No transcripts, reports, or evidentiary content will be shared outside of the Department's authorized user base.

VERIFICATION OF AI-ASSISTED REPORTS FOR ACCURACY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The proposed contract incorporates two AI-assisted report and documentation tools: Draft One (AI-assisted police report narratives) and Auto-Transcribe (AI-assisted evidence transcripts). The following safeguards govern the accuracy and accountability of AI-assisted content:

- **Mandatory Human Review and Officer Sign-Off (Draft One):** No AI-assisted report draft may be submitted without an officer personally reviewing the draft, filling in any missing information, and affirmatively signing off on the accuracy of the content. The AI tool generates a starting draft only; the officer retains full legal and professional responsibility for the final submitted report. The AI cannot override or substitute for officer judgment.

- **Audio-Only, Evidence-Based Input:** Draft One generates report narratives exclusively from body-worn camera audio transcripts and officer-provided narration. The system's function cannot speculate, infer, or add beyond what is captured in the evidentiary record. This ensures that every draft reflects only documented facts.

- **Side-by-Side Transcript Verification:** Officers can compare the AI-assisted draft against the original transcript and associated video in a simultaneous side-by-side view within the Axon platform, enabling immediate cross-referencing and correction of any discrepancy before report submission.

- **Approval Workflows and Supervisory Review:** All AI-assisted transcripts and reports are subject to supervisory approval workflows within Axon Evidence. Supervisors can review, annotate, and require corrections before a report is finalized, maintaining the chain of command's oversight role in report quality assurance.

- **Digital Audit Trail:** All transcript creation, modification, access, and approval activity is logged in a digital audit trail within Axon Evidence. This creates a complete, tamper-evident record of who accessed, modified, or approved any AI-assisted content which is essential for litigation discovery and internal accountability.

- **Ethics-First Design and Bias Evaluation:** Draft One was evaluated by Axon's Ethics & Equity Advisory Council (EEAC) for racial bias, word choice, and draft quality prior to deployment.

- **Restriction by Incident Type:** The Department retains the ability to restrict or disable Draft One usage for specific incident types, charge levels, or arrest circumstances ensuring that the tool is applied only in appropriate contexts determined by LAPD policy.

- **Transcript Accuracy — Human Refinement Tools:** Auto-Transcribe includes a Transcription Assistant, an intuitive text editor that allows users to refine AI-assisted transcripts using synchronized audio, video, and text. This ensures that any transcription errors identified by reviewing personnel can be corrected and documented before the transcript enters the evidentiary record.

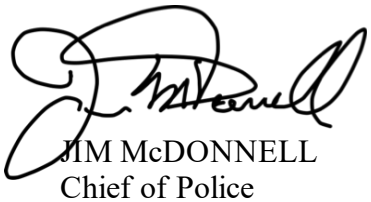
Collectively, these safeguards ensure that AI-assisted documentation tools function as productivity accelerators rather than autonomous decision-makers — with human officers, supervisors, and legal counsel retaining full authority, accountability, and oversight at every

stage of the documentation process.

Finally, exhibits are attached to this response that include detailed product specifications and capability overviews for each additional feature included in the proposed Axon contract renewal, as identified in the features table on Pages 4 of this report. The information describes in depth the operational capabilities, key benefits, and technical features of the following products: the Prepared Assistive AI Platform (encompassing Assistive Call-Taking, Assistive Dispatch, Automated Non-Emergency Triage, and Automated Quality Assurance); Axon Draft One AI-Assisted Report Writing; Axon Auto-Transcribe Evidence Transcription and Translation; and Axon Respond+ Live Streaming with Bi-Directional Communication.

If you have any questions, please contact Commander Randy Goddard, Assistant Commanding Officer, Information Technology Bureau, at (310) 488-7098.

Respectfully,



JIM McDONNELL
Chief of Police

Attachments

LAPD TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE

TASER 10 — Proposed Department-Wide Deployment

Executive Summary — Data Analysis from LAPD Pilot Program

Prepared for the Los Angeles City Council – Budget and Finance Committee

Presented by: Information Technology Bureau, Los Angeles Police Department

Background and Purpose

The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) conducted a structured field pilot program evaluating the TASER 10 as a potential replacement for the Department's current TASER 7 platform. The pilot began in early 2024 and ran through the end of the calendar year, involving five operational divisions: Central, Hollywood, Southeast, 77th Street, and Metropolitan/SWAT, with 850 TASER 10 units deployed and approximately 693 officers trained. This document summarizes the operational data, field deployment outcomes, and officer feedback generated by that pilot — and presents the case for Department-wide TASER 10 adoption as a critical investment in reducing officer-involved shootings and the civil liability costs associated with lethal force incidents.

TASER 10 vs. TASER 7: Critical Capability Differences

The TASER 10 represents a generational advance over the TASER 7 in three areas most directly relevant to officer safety and use-of-force outcomes:

1. Extended Effective Deployment Range

- TASER 7 maximum effective range: approximately 15 feet with a maximum range of 25 feet. TASER 10 demonstrated effective field deployments at distances of 0 to 45 feet — nearly doubling the effective engagement range.
- The significance of this cannot be overstated: law enforcement statistics have long established that a subject armed with an edged weapon can close 21 feet in approximately 1.5 seconds. At 15 feet, the TASER 7 may not provide adequate distance to safely deploy before an officer faces a lethal threat. The TASER 10's 45-foot capability places officers outside the immediate danger zone, providing a critical safety buffer.
- Field data from the LAPD pilot confirms real-world effectiveness at extended range:
  - October 26, 2024 — Hollywood Division: Four probes deployed at approximately 30 feet achieved Neuromuscular Incapacitation (NMI); suspect taken into custody without further incident.
  - October 30, 2024 — Hollywood Division: Two probes deployed at approximately 24 feet achieved NMI; suspect taken into custody without further incident.
  - July 27, 2024 — Metropolitan Division (Olympic): Three probes were deployed at approximately 24.6 feet in a dynamic situation involving a suspect who retreated into an apartment.
  - June 17, 2024 — Southeast Division: Probes deemed effective at ranges between 10.3 and 17.9 feet.

2. Ten Probes vs. Four Probes: More Opportunities to Avoid Lethal Force

- The TASER 7 carries four probes — sufficient for two deployment attempts. The TASER 10 carries ten probes, providing up to seven distinct deployment opportunities before an officer must exhaust the tool.
- This is operationally significant in dynamic, rapidly evolving encounters. Additional probe availability means officers have more opportunities to achieve compliance with non-lethal force before being compelled to escalate to a firearm.
- Field-confirmed officer feedback from the pilot (Southeast Division survey, November 2024): “Ten darts are available for deployment versus four darts (Two Cartridges, two attempts) with the TASER 7” was cited as a top positive attribute.
- Additional officer-reported advantages from the November 2024 survey:
  - Allows for more distance between the suspect and the officers
  - Easier function test and sturdier safety switch
  - Improved data download and upload to Evidence.com for use-of-force documentation

3. User-Controlled Probe Spread: Precision in the Field

- The TASER 7 deploys probes in a fixed, pre-designated spread. The TASER 10 allows the officer to determine probe spread dynamically during a deployment, enabling precision targeting based on the specific threat and distance.
- This user-controlled spread technology allows officers to adapt to the target’s clothing, body position, and distance — maximizing the chance of effective NMI and minimizing the need for a firearm.

Select Incident Outcomes Demonstrating Non-Lethal Resolution

- August 23, 2024 — 77th Street Division: Two probes deployed from approximately 10 feet into leg and waistband; NMI achieved; suspect arrested without further incident.
- October 6, 2024 — 77th Street Division: Three probes deployed at approximately 6.23 feet; NMI achieved; suspect taken into custody.
- October 23, 2024 — Central Division: Six probes deployed at approximately 0.738 feet (contact range); NMI achieved; suspect taken into custody.
- September 20, 2024 — Hollywood Division: Two probes deployed at approximately 4.49 feet; NMI achieved; suspect taken into custody.
- March 26, 2024 — Southeast Division: Two probes deployed at approximately 9.5 feet; suspect effectively taken into custody.

The Civil Liability Case: TASER 10 as a Cost-Reduction Strategy

For the Budget and Finance Committee, the investment in TASER 10 must be evaluated not only on equipment cost, but on its potential to reduce a far more significant fiscal burden: the cost of civil litigation arising from officer-involved shootings (OIS), particularly those involving edged weapons.

The Edged Weapon Problem

- Edged weapons (knives, machetes, bladed objects) represent one of the most common threat categories in OIS incidents. Nationally and locally, a significant percentage of OIS fatalities involve subjects armed with edged weapons — incidents that frequently result in costly civil settlements due to community concerns about whether lethal force was the only available option.

- The TASER 7's 15-foot maximum effective range means that by the time a subject is within TASER 7 engagement distance, the officer may already be within lethal-threat range — creating a justification for firearms use that the TASER 10 can potentially eliminate.
- The TASER 10's demonstrated effectiveness at 0 to 45 feet and places officers outside the typical lethal-threat zone for edged weapons, providing both a tactical safety margin and a documented, good-faith effort to use non-lethal force before escalating — a factor that carries significant weight in use-of-force litigation.

Reducing OIS Through Greater Non-Lethal Capacity

- The combination of extended range and ten available probes gives LAPD officers a materially expanded toolkit to resolve edged weapon encounters without resorting to lethal force:
  - Extended range = officer engagement before entering the lethal-threat zone.
  - Ten probes = up to seven deployment attempts to achieve compliance before all non-lethal options are exhausted.
  - User-controlled spread = greater precision tailored to the specific encounter, maximizing NMI effectiveness.
- Every edged weapon encounter resolved with a TASER 10 rather than a firearm represents not only a life preserved, but a significant reduction in the Department's civil exposure — which, in Los Angeles, has included multi-million dollar settlements in high-profile OIS cases.
- The LAPD pilot program produced zero documented OIS incidents in the five participating divisions during the trial period, with 27 non-lethal TASER 10 deployments successfully supporting arrests across a range of dynamic, high-risk encounters.

Equity and Community Trust

- Beyond fiscal liability, the City Council has a community accountability interest: the ability to demonstrate that LAPD is investing in technologies that prioritize preservation of life — including the lives of individuals experiencing mental health crises or under the influence of narcotics, who account for a disproportionate number of use-of-force incidents.
- The TASER 10's extended range and probe capacity represent a documented commitment to a "force continuum" approach — exhausting non-lethal options before lethal force is considered.

For more information, contact the LAPD Information Technology Bureau

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

Axon Fusus Pro Plus

The Software Foundation of the LAPD Real Time Crime Center

Executive Summary — Technology as a Force Multiplier

Prepared for the City of Los Angeles – Budget and Finance Committee
Information Technology Bureau, Los Angeles Police Department • April 2026

Overview

The Los Angeles Police Department's proposed Axon contract renewal includes Axon Fusus Pro Plus — the industry-leading Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) software platform. Fusus is not simply a feature added to the Axon contract; it is the operational brain of a modern RTCC and the indispensable software layer that transforms a collection of individual sensors and cameras into a unified, real-time intelligence picture. This document describes what Fusus is, what it does, how it integrates every sensor and data source available to LAPD, and why it is included in the proposed contract as a foundational rather than supplemental investment.

Importantly, Axon Fusus Pro Plus is included in the proposed ten-year contract renewal at no cost beyond the negotiated bundle price — representing one of the most significant capability additions in the Department's technology portfolio, delivered at zero marginal cost to the City.

2,000+	Millions	1 Platform	Pro Plus
Agencies using Axon Fusus worldwide	Livestreams processed annually	All sensors unified — one screen	Tier included in LAPD contract at no add'l cost

Part I: What Is Axon Fusus?

The Operating System of the Modern Real Time Crime Center

Axon Fusus is a cloud-based Real Time Crime Center platform that functions as the central software hub of a modern RTCC. Originally developed as Fusus — a pioneer in RTCC technology — the platform was acquired by Axon Enterprise, Inc. in February 2024, integrating it into the Axon public safety ecosystem as the cornerstone of Axon's real-time operations strategy.

At its core, Fusus solves the most fundamental problem facing modern law enforcement situational awareness: data fragmentation. Prior to platforms like Fusus, a typical metropolitan police department had dozens of distinct camera systems, sensor networks, CAD platforms, ALPR readers, and body-worn camera feeds — all operating in separate silos, each requiring its own interface, its own software, and its own trained operator. Officers in the field had no access to these disparate feeds. RTCC personnel had to toggle between multiple screens and systems, losing critical seconds in the process. Command staff could not see a unified picture of an evolving incident.

Fusus eliminates all of that. It ingests every data source — regardless of manufacturer, protocol, or vintage — and presents it on a single, unified, map-based interface accessible from any internet-connected device, anywhere in the world. As Axon describes it: Fusus is the "single pane of glass" through which LAPD's RTCC operators, field supervisors, command staff, and

incident commanders will see, understand, and act on the totality of real-time information available to the Department.

The FususONE Interface: One Map, Every Data Source

The FususONE interface is the operational face of the platform. It is a live, map-based display that combines every connected data source into a single, continuously updated operational picture. On this single map, RTCC operators can see:

- Live officer locations and status updates from CAD and body-worn cameras
- Real-time video from any connected camera — LAPD CCTV, community-registered private cameras, fleet in-car video, body-worn cameras, and drone feeds — all simultaneously accessible
- ALPR alerts and hotlist hits, mapped to the precise location of the detection
- Active incident markers drawn from the Computer-Aided Dispatch system
- Drone flight positions and live aerial video from Skydio DFR units
- Floor plans and building intelligence for major structures
- Social media and public tip feeds are integrated into incident views
- AI-generated alerts and activity flags from connected camera feeds

Every layer on the FususONE map can be toggled and filtered by the operator based on their role, their incident, and their information needs. A supervisor in the field can access the same live picture on a mobile phone that the RTCC operator has on a wall of screens — ensuring complete operational alignment across every level of the Department during active incidents.

Part II: Fusus as the Integration Hub — Every Sensor, One Platform

How Axon Fusus Unifies LAPD's Full Sensor Network

The defining capability of Axon Fusus — and the characteristic that sets it apart from every prior generation of RTCC software — is its genuinely open integration architecture. Unlike proprietary RTCC platforms that require agencies to operate exclusively within a single vendor's hardware ecosystem, Fusus is built to connect with virtually any sensor, camera system, or data source, regardless of manufacturer or vintage. This is not a marketing claim; it is the technical reality that enables Fusus to serve as the genuine nerve center of an LAPD RTCC.
The following table identifies each major data source available to LAPD and describes how Fusus integrates it into the unified operating picture:

Data Source / Sensor	How Fusus Integrates It
Axon Body-Worn Cameras (Body 4)	Native integration. Officers' live locations, alerts, livestreams, and bi-directional communications appear directly in the Fusus map. Officers can silently request drone deployment with one button press on their Body 4.
Axon Fleet — In-Car Video (DICVS)	Native integration. Every patrol vehicle becomes a rolling intelligence node. Fleet cameras provide live ALPR reads, vehicle detection, and livestreaming — all visible on the Fusus map in real time as units move through the city.
Skydio Drone as First Responder (DFR)	Native integration via the Skydio–Axon Fusus partnership. Drones launch within 20 seconds of a CAD alert, stream live HD and thermal video directly into Fusus, and allow RTCC operators and field officers to see the aerial view simultaneously. After flight,

	footage auto-uploads to Axon Evidence with chain of custody intact.
ALPR Cameras (Flock Safety, Axon Fleet)	Native integration. License plate reads and hotlist alerts are mapped in real time on the Fusus interface. An ALPR alert can automatically trigger a Skydio drone deployment to the vehicle's location with a single click.
Private / Community CCTV — Community Connect	Fusus's Community Connect program enables residents and businesses to voluntarily register their private security cameras. Registered cameras appear on the Fusus map, giving RTCC operators fast, opt-in access to nearby private footage during and after incidents — vastly expanding surveillance coverage without City capital expenditure.
LAPD Fixed CCTV Infrastructure	Integrated via Fusus Core. All fixed LAPD cameras throughout the city connect to the Fusus platform, eliminating the need to switch between separate VMS systems.
Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD)	Fusus ingests live CAD incident data, populating the map with active calls for service in real time. RTCC operators can launch incidents directly from the CAD feed and view all assigned units, camera coverage, and sensor data for that incident simultaneously.
Prepared — AI 911 Call Intelligence	Native integration (Axon acquired Prepared in 2025). Prepared's real-time 911 transcription, location data, and AI-generated incident summaries flow directly into Fusus. RTCC operators can hear live calls and see AI-extracted intelligence before a dispatcher has completed intake.
Social Media and Public Tips	Fusus aggregates public information feeds and tip submissions into the incident management interface, enabling RTCC analysts to incorporate community-sourced intelligence into active response.
Axon Evidence — Digital Evidence Management	All video, ALPR data, drone footage, and sensor data captured through Fusus-connected sources is transferred to Axon Evidence with full chain of custody intact, ready for investigation, prosecution, and discovery.

The significance of this integration depth cannot be overstated. Before Fusus, accessing these data sources required an RTCC operator to maintain simultaneous sessions across multiple disconnected software platforms — a cognitively overwhelming and operationally inefficient task. With Fusus, every source listed above is accessible through a single interface, on a single screen, organized by location and incident. The result is not merely convenience; it is a fundamental transformation in the speed and quality of situational awareness available to LAPD personnel.

Part III: Community Connect — The Public-Private Camera Partnership

Millions of Private Cameras, Zero Capital Cost to the City

One of Fusus's most strategically powerful capabilities — and one of the strongest fiscal arguments for the platform — is its Community Connect program. Los Angeles has an estimated millions of privately owned security cameras installed on homes, businesses, retail establishments, apartment complexes, schools, houses of worship, and commercial properties throughout the city. Under the traditional model, this vast private surveillance network is entirely inaccessible to law enforcement in real time. Officers responding to an incident must physically canvass the area, knock on doors, and request footage on a case-by-case basis — a process that takes hours and often yields evidence only after a suspect has fled.

Community Connect changes this entirely. Through the program, property owners and businesses voluntarily opt in to share their cameras with LAPD on terms they control — specifying when access is available, for what types of incidents, and for how long. Participating cameras are mapped in the Fusus interface, allowing RTCC operators during an active incident to see every opted-in camera within the incident radius, access live feeds with appropriate authorization, and direct responding officers to camera angles they would never have located on their own.

- **Zero Capital Cost to the City:** Every opted-in private camera adds coverage to the RTCC's operational picture at no cost to LAPD or the City of Los Angeles. The property owner owns and maintains the hardware. LAPD gains the intelligence.
- **Voluntary and Consent-Based:** The program is entirely opt-in. No camera is accessible without the property owner's prior consent and registration, consistent with LAPD's privacy obligations and the Department's community trust objectives.
- **Electronic Evidence Drop-Box:** Property owners can also submit recorded footage directly through the Fusus platform without requiring officer contact, streamlining evidence collection for post-incident investigation.
- **Exponential Coverage Expansion:** As community participation grows, LAPD's effective camera coverage of the city grows with it — without any increase in infrastructure budget.

Part IV: Drone as First Responder — Fusus as the Launch Platform

How Fusus Turns a CAD Alert into an Airborne Response in 20 Seconds

The integration between Axon Fusus and Skydio's Drone as First Responder (DFR) platform is one of the most operationally transformative capabilities in the proposed LAPD technology ecosystem. Fusus is the platform through which LAPD's DFR program is coordinated, monitored, and managed — and the integration between the two systems is seamless by design.

How the Fusus–Skydio Integration Works

The workflow from incident detection to drone deployment operates as follows, entirely within the Fusus platform:

- A 911 call is placed. Prepared's AI instantly transcribes the call and extracts location data, pushing the incident to Fusus before the dispatcher has completed intake.
- Alternatively, an ALPR alert fires as a vehicle of interest passes a Flock or Fleet camera. The plate read appears on the Fusus map instantly.
- Or an officer in the field presses the Watch Me or drone-request button on their Axon Body 4 camera. The request appears immediately in the Fusus RTCC interface.
- The RTCC operator clicks once in Fusus to dispatch the nearest Skydio drone. The drone is airborne within 20 seconds, autonomously navigating to the GPS coordinates of the incident.
- Live HD and thermal video from the drone streams directly into the Fusus map, alongside body-worn camera feeds, fleet camera feeds, and nearby CCTV footage — all on the same screen.
- RTCC operators guide responding officers to the suspect's location in real time using the drone's aerial view, providing direction of travel, suspect description, and vehicle identification.
- Upon completion of the flight, Skydio DFR Command automatically uploads all drone footage to Axon Evidence with full chain-of-custody documentation, ready for investigation and prosecution.

Skydio DFR Command has processed more than 10 million calls for service and integrates with more than 25 public safety systems, including CAD platforms from Motorola, CentralSquare, Tyler Technologies, and others. Its native integration with Axon Fusus represents the gold-standard workflow for DFR operations, and LAPD is positioned to leverage this fully integrated capability from the first day of the new contract.

Part V: Why Fusus Is the Right Platform for the LAPD RTCC

The Strategic, Fiscal, and Operational Case

1. It Is Already Included in the Contract

Axon Fusus Pro Plus is included in the proposed ten-year Axon contract renewal at no additional cost beyond the negotiated bundle price. The Department is not being asked to fund a separate RTCC software procurement — Fusus comes with the contract.

2. Open Architecture Protects and Amplifies Every Prior Investment

Unlike proprietary RTCC platforms that require agencies to replace existing hardware to gain integration, Fusus connects to what LAPD already has. The Department's existing CCTV infrastructure, Fleet cameras, body-worn cameras, ALPR network, and CAD system all integrate with Fusus without replacement or modification. Fusus does not make prior investments obsolete — it makes them more valuable by unifying them for the first time.

3. Proven Results in Comparable Cities

The Atlanta Police Department, one of Fusus's earliest major agency partners, reported that its RTCC generates major investigative leads in approximately half of all homicide cases. Cobb County, Georgia achieved a 100% homicide clearance rate in both 2021 and 2022 using real-time tools powered by Fusus. San Francisco's Real-Time Investigation Center — built on a comparable architecture — assisted in more than 500 arrests and produced a 42% reduction in vehicle theft within its first operational year. These results are not outliers; they reflect a consistent pattern of performance across agencies of varying size and geography that have implemented unified RTCC platforms.

4. Civil Liability and Accountability

Every livestream, drone flight, ALPR alert, and camera access event within Fusus is logged in a comprehensive, tamper-evident audit trail. This documentation creates a defensible record of how LAPD personnel used RTCC tools during any given incident — a critical protection in litigation arising from use-of-force, pursuit, or civil rights claims. The audit trail also supports LAPD's compliance with ongoing obligations regarding surveillance technology oversight.

5. Equity, Transparency, and Community Trust

Axon Fusus was designed from the ground up with privacy and equity safeguards, developed in partnership with Axon's Ethics and Equity Advisory Council (EEAC). Community Connect's opt-in model ensures that private camera access is always consent-based and transparent. The platform's role-based access controls and audit logging ensure that data access is tracked, documented, and accountable — consistent with LAPD's obligations under the City's surveillance technology ordinances and the community's expectations of responsible technology use.

Summary

Axon Fusus Pro Plus is the software that transforms LAPD's existing and proposed sensor investments into a functioning Real Time Crime Center. Without Fusus, the Department's body-worn cameras, fleet cameras, ALPR readers, drones, and private camera partnerships each operate as separate, disconnected tools. With Fusus, they become a unified, real-time intelligence system that is greater than the sum of its parts.

The platform integrates every sensor and data source available to LAPD — Axon Body 4, Axon Fleet, Skydio DFR drones, ALPR cameras, private community cameras through Community Connect, CAD, Prepared's AI 911 intelligence, and more — into a single, cloud-based operational picture accessible from any device, anywhere in the Department. It is the operating system of the modern RTCC, and it is included in the proposed Axon contract renewal at no additional cost to the City.

Sources: Axon Enterprise, Inc. • Skydio, Inc. • Axon 2024 Annual Report • axon.com/products/axon-fusus • skydio.com

Prepared by: Information Technology Bureau, Los Angeles Police Department • April 2026

LAPD TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE — AXON CONTRACT RENEWAL

Draft One

AI-Powered Police Report Writing

Executive Summary — Return on Investment, Civil Liability Reduction & Officer Efficiency

Prepared for the City of Los Angeles – Budget and Finance Committee
Information Technology Bureau, Los Angeles Police Department • April 2026

Overview

Draft One is an AI-powered report-writing tool included in the LAPD's proposed Axon contract renewal. It generates first-draft police report narratives automatically from body-worn camera audio transcripts, supplemented by officer-provided narration at or after the scene. Every draft requires mandatory officer review, correction, and personal sign-off before submission — preserving full officer accountability while dramatically reducing the time officers spend on administrative paperwork.

Draft One is not an autonomous reporting system. It is a productivity tool — one that transforms hours of post-incident documentation into minutes, returns officers to patrol faster, reduces overtime liability, improves report quality and consistency, and provides a legally defensible, evidence-grounded foundation for every report submitted by LAPD personnel.

Multiple Hours	8:1	< 5 Minutes
Saved per officer per week on report writing	Force multiplier: 8 officers saving 1 hr/shift = 1 full extra patrol shift per day	From incident end to first draft available

Part I: How Draft One Works

From Body Camera Audio to First-Draft Report in Under Five Minutes

Draft One operates through a simple, five-step process fully integrated within the Axon Evidence platform that officers and supervisors already use daily:

- The officer activates their Axon Body 4 body-worn camera during an incident, as required by LAPD policy. Audio is captured automatically throughout the encounter.
- When the incident concludes, the BWC audio is uploaded over LTE and automatically transcribed within the Axon Evidence platform. A first-draft report narrative is generated and available to the officer within five minutes of the incident ending.
- The officer adds post-incident narration — by typing or speaking — to provide context, fill gaps, or supply details not captured on audio. Multiple BWC transcripts, including footage from other officers at the scene, can be incorporated into a single unified draft.
- The officer reviews the draft side-by-side with the original transcript and video in a single view, cross-references any detail, and makes corrections. Draft length (short, standard, or detailed) is adjustable to fit the incident type.
- The officer personally reviews, fills in blanks, and signs off on the accuracy of the final report before submitting. The report is then copied into LAPD's third-party Records Management System (RMS) with a single click.

This process replaces the traditional model in which an officer must reconstruct an incident entirely from memory, hours after the event, while sitting at a computer terminal — a process that is time-consuming, cognitively demanding, and inherently subject to the inaccuracies of human memory under stress.

Part II: Return on Investment

How Draft One Delivers Measurable Fiscal Value to the City of Los Angeles

1. The Force Multiplier Equation

LAPD is a Department that, like virtually every major urban police agency in the United States, faces ongoing staffing pressures. Draft One directly addresses the productivity gap created by officer shortages without requiring the City to hire additional sworn personnel. The math is straightforward and compelling:

Draft One Force Multiplier	Equivalent Operational Gain
8 officers each save 1 hour per shift on report writing	**= 1 additional full 8-hour patrol shift per day, at no added cost**
Applied across LAPD's full sworn complement on patrol	**= Hundreds of officer-hours recovered per day for calls for service**
Reports available within 5 minutes of incident end	**= Supervisors receive and approve reports faster; backlogs reduced**

2. Overtime Cost Reduction

Report writing that extends into an officer's off-duty hours generates overtime liability for the City of Los Angeles at the officer's overtime rate. For a Department of LAPD's size, even a modest per-officer reduction in end-of-shift documentation time produces significant annual savings in overtime expenditure. Draft One compresses post-incident reporting from hours to minutes — directly reducing the documentation-driven overtime that is one of the most controllable cost drivers in the patrol budget.

3. Officer Retention and Recruitment Cost Avoidance

Administrative burden — and specifically excessive, repetitive paperwork — is consistently identified in law enforcement workforce studies as a primary driver of officer burnout, early retirement, and voluntary resignation. The cost of recruiting, screening, hiring, and training a replacement officer at LAPD is substantial, spanning multiple years and hundreds of thousands of dollars per officer before that officer reaches full operational effectiveness.

Draft One directly addresses one of the most cited contributors to burnout by eliminating the most tedious component of an officer's administrative workload. Improved retention of experienced officers reduces recruitment and training costs, preserves institutional knowledge, and maintains patrol staffing levels — all without additional headcount budget.

4. Improved Response Times and Call-for-Service Capacity

Officers who complete reports faster are available for reassignment and response to new calls for service more quickly. In a large urban environment like Los Angeles, where response time is a critical public safety and community accountability metric, recovering even minutes per officer per shift across the patrol force has measurable impact on the Department's ability to respond to the community it serves.

Part III: Civil Liability Reduction

How Draft One Protects the City in Litigation

For the Budget and Finance Committee, the civil liability implications of Draft One are among the most significant fiscal arguments for the technology. Police report accuracy is foundational to the City's defense in use-of-force litigation, misconduct claims, and criminal prosecution. The following features of Draft One directly reduce the City's exposure in each of these areas.

1. Reports Grounded in the Evidentiary Record — Not Officer Memory

The most common source of inconsistency in police reports — and one of the most exploited vulnerabilities in civil litigation against law enforcement — is the discrepancy between what an officer recalls and what was actually captured on body-worn camera. These discrepancies, even when entirely unintentional, are used by plaintiffs' counsel to attack officer credibility and suggest that reports were fabricated or embellished.

2. Audio-Only Input — Creativity is Disabled

Draft One's design explicitly disables any generative or inferential capability. The system cannot speculate about what happened, cannot infer intent or context not present in the audio, and cannot embellish beyond the evidentiary record. As Axon's product documentation states: "Creativity is turned off to prevent speculation or embellishment, so every draft reflects only the evidence and the officer's narration." This is a critical legal safeguard — it ensures that the AI tool cannot introduce content into a report that could not be directly traced to the BWC audio or the officer's own stated narration.

3. Mandatory Officer Review and Sign-Off — Full Accountability Preserved

No Draft One report can be submitted without the officer personally reviewing the draft, filling in required fields, and affirmatively signing off on its accuracy. The officer retains full legal and professional responsibility for every report submitted under their name and badge number. Draft One is a starting point, not an autonomous agent. This design ensures that the AI tool cannot be used as a shield against officer accountability in litigation, and that the Department can demonstrate in any proceeding that a human officer reviewed and certified each report.

4. Side-by-Side Transcript Verification

Officers can compare the AI-generated draft against the original transcript and associated video simultaneously in a single view within the Axon platform. This built-in cross-referencing capability ensures that discrepancies between the draft and the evidentiary record are caught and corrected before submission — producing a final report that is verifiably consistent with the BWC footage. In litigation, this is a powerful demonstration that the Department's reporting process includes a documented verification step against the camera record.

5. Ethics-First Design — Racial Bias Evaluation

Draft One was rigorously evaluated for word choice selection, draft quality, and racial bias in partnership with Axon's Ethics and Equity Advisory Council (EEAC) — an independent body of community, civil rights, and legal experts. This evaluation process assessed whether the AI's language choices, framing, or characterizations introduced any racially disparate patterns into generated reports.

For the City of Los Angeles, this is directly relevant to the Department's obligations under its ongoing community trust and equity commitments, and provides affirmative evidence that the AI tool was designed and tested to avoid introducing bias into the official record. In any future

litigation challenging the equity of LAPD's reporting practices, the EEAC evaluation process provides a documented, independent safeguard that the Department can point to in its defense.

6. Mixed English/Spanish Audio Processing — Translation Dispute Elimination

Draft One processes mixed English and Spanish audio and generates English-language reports without requiring manual translation. Encounters with Spanish-speaking individuals are a significant portion of LAPD's daily call volume. When these encounters are documented by memory or with ad hoc translation, the resulting reports are vulnerable to challenge on the grounds that the officer misunderstood, mischaracterized, or selectively reported what was said. Draft One's direct processing of the audio eliminates this vulnerability by grounding the report in what was actually captured on the camera, in the caller's own language.

7. Stronger Prosecution Support — Reducing Case Attrition

Higher-quality, more consistent, and more quickly completed police reports improve the quality of prosecutorial case files. Cases are less likely to be declined for filing or dismissed due to incomplete or internally inconsistent documentation. Stronger reports translate directly into better prosecution outcomes, which reduces the volume of cases that result in civil liability exposure from wrongful prosecution or inadequate documentation of probable cause.

8. California SB 524 Compliance and National Prosecutorial Vetting

Draft One is fully compliant with California state law governing the use of artificial intelligence in the preparation of official law enforcement reports. Governor Gavin Newsom signed Senate Bill 524 (SB 524) into law on October 10, 2025. The law, effective January 1, 2026, is codified at California Penal Code Section 13663.

Axon has worked directly with district and defense attorneys across the United States to address concerns and ensure the tool's output meets evidentiary standards. Agencies currently using Draft One include departments in Fresno, East Palo Alto, Fort Collins (Colorado), Boulder (Colorado), and Oklahoma City. All operate under active prosecutorial relationships in which AI-assisted reports are accepted as the foundation of the evidentiary record, subject to the officer's required certification of accuracy. The U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) published a formal analysis of AI-assisted report-writing tools in January 2025, recognizing Draft One as the leading technology in the space and noting broad agency adoption nationwide. The Department acknowledges that individual prosecutorial offices retain discretion within their jurisdictions and that LAPD will engage directly with the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office during implementation to establish appropriate protocols consistent with SB 524 and local practice.

Part IV: Officer Safety and Field Efficiency

Keeping Officers Alert, Available, and in the Community

- **Reduced Field Vulnerability During Documentation:** Officers who write reports in the field do so with their attention divided between their device and their surroundings. Draft One reduces the time officers spend in this distracted, vulnerable posture — returning their situational awareness to their environment sooner and reducing the risk exposure associated with field documentation.

- **Officers Motivated to Activate and Narrate Clearly:** Because reports are drafted directly from BWC audio, officers who use Draft One are incentivized to activate their cameras consistently and to speak clearly and descriptively during encounters with the community. This improves the overall quality and completeness of LAPD's body-worn

camera record — a benefit that extends to every downstream use of that footage, including supervisor review, community transparency, and litigation defense.

- **More Time for Community Policing:** Officers freed from extended documentation tasks spend more time visible and available in their communities. This is not merely an efficiency gain — it is a community trust and public safety benefit, as patrol presence is a recognized deterrent to criminal activity and a tangible demonstration of the Department's commitment to the neighborhoods it serves.

- **Less Burnout, Better Outcomes:** Officers who spend less time on repetitive administrative tasks report higher job satisfaction, lower stress levels, and greater engagement in their work. The downstream effect of reduced burnout is fewer use-of-force incidents, better decision-making under stress, and longer careers — all of which reduce the City's long-term liability exposure and workforce costs.

Part V: Complete Feature Summary

Draft One — All Capabilities at a Glance

Feature	Description and Value
Post-Incident Narration	Officers add essential context by typing or speaking after the incident. Combined with transcript audio to generate a stronger, more complete draft.
Rapid Audio Upload and Transcription	BWC audio uploaded over LTE automatically. Report draft available within five minutes of incident end — no manual upload required.
Side-by-Side Transcript View	Draft and original transcript displayed simultaneously with associated video for real-time cross-referencing and verification before submission.
Use Multiple Transcripts	Officers can incorporate footage from multiple officers at a scene into a single unified draft — capturing the full picture of complex, multi-officer incidents.
Adjustable Draft Lengths	Short, standard, or detailed draft output configurable per incident — matching the level of documentation required for the nature of the call.
Required Human Review and Sign-Off	Mandatory officer review and personal certification of accuracy before any report can be submitted. Full officer accountability preserved at all times.
Audio-Only Input (No Embellishment)	Drafts generated solely from evidence and officer narration. Generative/speculative capability is disabled. Every draft traceable directly to the evidentiary record.
Ethics-First Design (EEAC)	Evaluated for racial bias, word choice, and draft quality by Axon's Ethics and Equity Advisory Council. Documented independent safeguard against biased reporting.
Mixed-Language Support (English/Spanish)	Processes mixed English and Spanish audio to generate English reports without manual translation — critical for LAPD's linguistically diverse call volume.

Third-Person Report Formatting	Agency-configurable to generate reports in third person, matching LAPD's reporting standards and reducing manual reformatting edits.
Auto-Inserted Officer Ranks	Officer ranks automatically populated from agency settings in every generated draft, ensuring consistency and eliminating manual entry errors.
Restrict by Incident Type	LAPD can limit Draft One use to specific incident types, charge levels, or arrest scenarios — maintaining agency control over where AI-assisted reporting is applied.
Compatible with Third-Party RMS	Draft reports copy into LAPD's Records Management System with a single click — no manual re-entry, no duplicate documentation effort.
Axon Evidence Integration	Drafts generated and edited inside Axon Evidence — the same platform LAPD already uses daily for all digital evidence management.
Usage Reports	Self-service analytics showing draft generation and submission rates by officer — enabling supervisors to identify adoption patterns and target training.
Data Security	All transcripts and reports remain secured within the encrypted Axon Network. No data shared outside LAPD's authorized user base. CJIS compliant.
Officer Training (Axon Academy)	Integrated training resources within the Draft One application and available through Axon Academy, with additional agency-specific training options.

Summary

Draft One is a fiscally sound, operationally significant, and legally protective addition to LAPD's technology toolkit. It reduces officer administrative burden, returns patrol hours to the field, compresses overtime costs, supports officer retention, and produces a higher-quality, more consistent evidentiary record that protects the City in civil litigation. Its mandatory human review requirement, evidence-only input, and ethics-first design ensure that the efficiency gains it delivers do not come at the expense of officer accountability or the integrity of the Department's reporting record.

Source: Axon Enterprise, Inc. — Draft One Product Card 2026 • axon.com/draft-one • *© 2025 Axon Enterprise, Inc.*
Prepared by: Information Technology Bureau, Los Angeles Police Department • April 2026

LAPD TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE

Prepared Assistive AI Platform

Executive Summary

Prepared for the Los Angeles City Council – Budget and Finance Committee

Presented by: Information Technology Bureau, Los Angeles Police Department

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Overview

As part of the renewal of the LAPD's Axon contract (expiring July 31, 2026), the Department is proposing inclusion of Prepared — an end-to-end Assistive AI platform purpose-built for 911 and non-emergency public safety communications. Prepared is currently deployed in over 1,000 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) nationwide, has processed more than 8 million 911 calls, and serves over 86 million people across 49 states.

Key Benefits for the Los Angeles Community

1. Faster Emergency Response Times

- Prepared's Assistive Call-Taking module reduces call processing time by up to 50%, meaning emergency units are dispatched faster when every second counts.
- Real-time AI transcription captures critical incident details — suspect descriptions, vehicle information, and locations — automatically, freeing call-takers to focus entirely on the caller rather than manual data entry.
- Assistive Dispatch provides real-time radio transcription for dispatchers, ensuring no critical field communication is ever missed and reducing the chance of coordination errors that can delay officer response.

2. Real-Time Language Translation — Breaking Barriers for Non-English Speakers

- Prepared supports real-time translation in 30+ languages, enabling seamless two-way communication between call-takers and callers who do not speak English — a critical capability in a city as linguistically diverse as Los Angeles.
- For Spanish-speaking callers — a significant segment of the Los Angeles population — the platform features text-to-voice translation, converting the call-taker's typed responses into spoken Spanish in real time, enabling true two-way dialogue without a third-party interpreter.
- Language translation reduces response times for non-English speakers by up to 66%, ensuring that every community member — regardless of language — receives the same quality of emergency service.

3. AI-Powered Non-Emergency Assistance — Smarter Service for the Community

- Prepared's Automated Non-Emergency Triage uses a dynamic, conversational AI assistant to handle routine non-emergency calls (noise complaints, stolen property reports, animal control referrals, etc.) on LAPD's 10-digit lines — without requiring a call-taker to be on the line.

- The AI assistant converses naturally with callers in English and Spanish, gathers the necessary information, sends SMS follow-up links for online reporting, and transfers calls to the correct agency or department as needed.
- Every non-emergency interaction is logged, transcribed, and accessible for supervisor review — with a human call-taker able to join the call at any moment if the AI identifies an escalating situation.
- This reduces the total volume of calls requiring human intervention, allowing LAPD call-takers to dedicate their full attention to true emergencies — directly improving outcomes for community members in crisis.

Key Policy and Fiscal Considerations for Council Members

1. Equity, Access, and Civil Rights Alignment

- Real-time multilingual translation ensures that non-English-speaking residents — including Spanish, Armenian, Korean, Mandarin, and Tagalog speakers prevalent throughout Los Angeles — receive equitable access to emergency services, consistent with the City's equity and language access commitments.
- Automated non-emergency triage ensures that underserved communities reporting quality-of-life concerns receive timely, respectful responses from an AI system — rather than being placed on hold or redirected.

2. Workforce Support and Reduction of Dispatcher Burnout

- AI-assisted call-taking and radio transcription significantly reduces cognitive overload for 911 call-takers and dispatchers — one of the most high-stress roles in public safety. This supports staff retention and reduces attrition costs.
- Automated QA tools allow supervisors to review 100% of calls for protocol compliance and coaching opportunities, supporting staff development without requiring significant additional resources.

3. Transparency, Accountability, and Oversight

- All calls — both emergency and non-emergency — are fully transcribed, logged, time-stamped, and accessible for supervisory review, supporting LAPD's accountability and transparency objectives.
- Keyword flagging and incident-level AI summaries enable supervisors to quickly identify critical calls, protocol deviations, or emerging patterns — tools that support both internal accountability and Council oversight.
- Automated Quality Assurance (QA) enables LAPD to demonstrate measurable performance standards to City leadership and the public.

4. Cost-Effective, Over-the-Top Deployment

- Prepared deploys as an "over-the-top" solution that integrates with LAPD's existing CAD and communications infrastructure — requiring no costly system replacement and capable of being deployed within weeks.
- By diverting routine administrative calls away from trained 911 call-takers, Prepared generates operational efficiency gains that offset the cost of deployment and may reduce the need for additional staffing.