



Whereas, The New York Police Department (NYPD) has equipped all uniformed patrol officers with body-worn cameras to record their interactions with community residents; and

Whereas, Because MTA police are not considered members of the NYPD, they are exempt from wearing body-worn cameras; and

Whereas, Research from Arizona State University shows officers with body-worn cameras have fewer complaints lodged against them; and

Whereas, A study conducted with Rialto Police Department in California shows decreases in civilian complaints lodged against officers wearing body-worn camera and decreases in use-of-force incidents by the police; and

Whereas, S6793 introduced by State Senator Jessica Ramos, and companion bill A8943 introduced by Assemblymember Karines Reyes, would require MTA police to wear body-worn cameras and directs the chief of the MTA Police Department to establish rules and regulations pertaining to body-worn cameras; and

Whereas, The use of body-worn cameras would increase transparency and accountability, which can help improve law enforcement legitimacy at a time when communities lack trust and confidence in law enforcement; and

Whereas, The use of body-worn cameras also offer the opportunity to improve training as law enforcement officials can assess police activities and behaviors captured by body-worn cameras; and now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls upon the New York State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, S6793/A8943, which would require MTA police officers to wear body-worn cameras

LS12753  
12/30/19  
KMD