# TOWN *Of* PARADISE VALLEY

## STAFF REPORT

**TO:**     **Mayor Stanton and Town Council Members**

**FROM:**   **Andrew Ching, Town Manager**
            **Freeman Carney, Chief of Police**

**DATE:**   **December 11, 2025**

**DEPARTMENT: Police Department**
Freeman Carney, 480 948-7410

**AGENDA TITLE:**
**Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Third Amendment to the Linking Agreement with Axon Enterprises, Inc for the Purchase of Axon AI Products**

**RECOMMENDATION:**
Approve the Third Amendment to the Linking Agreement (CON-24-016-POL-A3) with Axon Enterprises, Inc to increase the scope of work to include Axon AI products in an amount not to exceed $953,398 spread out over the contact term ending June 30, 2033.

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:**
PVPD is seeking an amendment to the current contract with AXON to add the AXON AI Era Plan, AXON Fusus, and AXON Prepared 911.

**The Axon AI Era Plan** - is designed to streamline the entire "call-to-case-closure" workflow. It includes advanced AI tools such as automatic audio/video transcription, AI-assisted report drafting, and enhanced evidence management. These capabilities significantly reduce the time officers spend on admin tasks, allowing them to return to patrol and community engagement more quickly. For supervisors, the platform improves oversight, documentation consistency, and audit capabilities, strengthening both accountability and operational efficiency. For Records, it provides enhanced report and body-worn camera footage redaction capabilities.

**Axon Fusus** – a real-time crime center (RTCC) used by agencies across the country. Fusus consolidates live camera feeds, license plate readers, drone video, officer locations, and other platforms into one secure, map-based interface. This gives officers, dispatchers, and supervisors immediate access to critical information during incidents. Real-time visibility enhances officer safety, reduces response times, and improves decision-making during emergencies and evolving calls for service. Video link - [Axon Fusus Product Video Explainer on Vimeo](#)

## STAFF REPORT

**Prepared 911-** is an AI-enabled system that enhances 911 call handling through real-time transcription, translation, caller video sharing, and structured call summaries. Prepared 911 reduces dispatchers' cognitive load and improves call accuracy, especially during high-stress or noisy situations. It also helps address call-taking challenges such as language barriers, incomplete information, and simultaneous multi-caller events. By capturing clearer, more actionable information at the very beginning of an incident, officer response becomes more informed and effective. This system also provides Communications supervisors with enhanced real-time quality assurance tools to improve service, coaching, and morale. Video link - Prepared by Axon

Combined, these systems create a seamless workflow from the moment a 911 call is received to officers' response in the field and the final investigative steps. The unified ecosystem strengthens situational awareness, reduces administrative tasks, and improves the quality and speed of investigations. This technology also enhances transparency and meets growing expectations for accountability through improved digital evidence management and audit logging.

This investment aligns with the department's strategic priorities by promoting officer safety, improving operational efficiency, and enhancing community trust. Other agencies that have adopted these systems report reductions in report-writing time, faster threat identification, earlier detection of developing incidents, and more accurate emergency call triage. These tools will help provide even greater efficiency, responsiveness, and clarity during critical events.

To assess the viability and gather employee feedback on certain AXON AI products, the department conducted a trial of AXON Draft One, Transcription, and Translation from August 2025 to the present, and has received overwhelmingly positive feedback from both sworn and professional staff on the time savings and efficiency of the products. The language translation feature on the AXON Body 4 was utilized by Patrol on several occasions during calls for service and traffic stops, increasing communication and understanding, which resulted in positive interactions with the public. During the trial, staff averaged approximately a 50% decrease in time spent on report writing. In a side-by-side comparison, one officer noted that the report generated in DRAFT ONE was more detailed than his typed report and was produced in less time. "What stood out was that the completed narrative ended up far more detailed than what I would have written without the tool."

For these reasons, staff recommends adding the Axon AI Era Plan, Axon Fusus, and AXON Prepared 911 to the current contract. This will modernize our operations, improve service to the community, and ensure that our officers and dispatchers have the tools they need to safely and effectively carry out their duties.

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In discussions with Axon, staff learned that due to expected rate increases, if the Town enters into this agreement before the end of 2025, we will be eligible to save $464,993 over the next 8 years. We will also be locked in on price for 8 years and receive all new AXON AI upgrades and products during that time at no increase in price.

**BUDGETARY IMPACT:**
The first remaining partial fiscal year (FY26) of this contract amendment will cost an additional $3,745. The remaining fiscal years of the contract will cost an additional $118,706.44 per year until June 30, 2033. If approved, the Town will increase Axon's total compensation by $953,398, resulting in an increase of the combined not-to-exceed compensation from $1,838,759.04 to $2,792,156.28.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**
  A.  Staff Report
  B.  Axon AI Presentation
  C.  Axon Agreement