

THE BUFFALO NEWS

Cheektowaga plans body cameras for police road patrol



Cheektowaga Police Chief David J. Zack plans to outfit 90 members of road patrol unit. (John Hickey/Buffalo News)

By Jane Kwiatkowski Radlich (https://buffalonews.com/author/jane_kwiatkowski/) | Published May 15, 2019 | Updated May 15, 2019

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Officers and supervisors in the road patrol division of the Cheektowaga Police Department will be outfitted with body cameras, said Chief David J. Zack.

The program will cost from \$500,000 to \$600,000 and equip 90 road patrol personnel, said Zack, who appeared before the Cheektowaga Town Board on Tuesday.

“The big cost is data storage, and for an agency of our size with our call volume, we need unlimited iCloud-based storage,” he said. “We’ve been kicking this around since 2014.”

Calls for fire and police service have increased from 53,311 in 2013 to roughly 65,000 in 2018, Zack reported.

The in-dash cameras installed in patrol vehicles in 2011 will be replaced with new cameras once the body cameras are deployed, Zack said.

The chief expected a portion of the cost to be funded by federal grants. He did not give a timetable for the deployment of the new cameras, but said grant applications are due in June.

The board is expected to approve the plan later this month.



(https://buffalonews.com/author/jane_kwiatkowski/) **Jane Kwiatkowski Radlich** – Jane Kwiatkowski Radlich is a staff reporter at The Buffalo News. A print journalism graduate of SUNY Buffalo State, she is also a licensed attorney.

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