

Communication from Public

Name: Erica Webster

Date Submitted: 01/24/2023 05:26 PM

Council File No: 22-1438

Comments for Public Posting: My comment is to urge this committee to vote NO on this item. We know exactly who this new tech is going to be targeting, we've seen this all play out with LAPD's acquisition of drone technology. Over one-third of instances of drone use by SWAT were in the predominantly Black and Brown communities policed by 77th Division, 11.9 square miles of land already heavily occupied and surveilled by police from the ground and air. These are the communities where LAPD wants to keep using drones, and experiment with quadruped unmanned robotic devices like SPOT as well. We demand a shut-down of LAPD acquisition of new technology, and a dismantling of the drone program! There's a history of the LA Police Foundation donating toys for LAPD to experiment on communities. Body Worn Video was originally a donation tested on the Skid Row Community. These donations inevitably become permanent line items. Since they were initially donated, LAPD has received over \$67M for body worn video devices. The donations provided permanent footholds in the ever-expanding LAPD budget. If LAPF wants to give resources to the City of LA that reduces crime, they can donate the \$278,000 to youth development and poverty alleviation programs.