



CITY OF SAINT PAUL  
Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

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February 17, 2015

Council President Kathy Lantry  
and Members of the City Council  
320 C City Hall  
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Dear Colleagues:

I am returning Res 15-193 to you without my signature, but with the understanding that you have communicated the sentiments of the Council on this matter and have left future action to me.

Saint Paul Police Chief Tom Smith and his executive team have been researching body cameras for some time. They will continue to consult with other police departments across the state that are implementing body cameras to gather information about the technology, costs, training, data storage and privacy issues that are among the many factors we will need to address as this policy discussion moves forward. Chief Smith will share that information with Council as you asked and he and I will continue to discuss how and when to advance this innovation.

On the matter of providing a financial incentive to members of the St. Paul Police Department to live in the City of Saint Paul, I believe we would be well served by more of our employees choosing to live in the city. That said, I believe this should remain a choice and that our efforts are best directed at continuing to make Saint Paul a vital community where people want to live and raise their families. I have concerns about incentivizing one group of City employees over another in this regard. What's more, if the goal of this measure is – in part – to ensure a continued focus on diversifying our police department, then I think a physical address makes less of a difference than life experience and background.

Again, I look forward to continuing our work on these issues of public safety and public confidence – and am eager to find ways to make Saint Paul the most livable city in America.

Sincerely,

Christopher B. Coleman  
Mayor

cc: Shari Moore, City Clerk