

Surveillance Impact Report (SIR) SPD SIR Material Update Forward Looking Infrared Real-Time Video (FLIR)

Economic Development, Technology & City Light Committee

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Seattle Police Department
Seattle Information Technology

SIR Material Update Process

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Overview

- Surveillance Ordinance compliance efforts over the last five years have resulted in 26 Surveillance Impact Reports (SIRs) out of 28 on the Master List submitted to Council.
- Since the passage of the SIRs by Council, departments have flagged changes in their surveillance technologies that have occurred since the original SIR.
- SMC 14.18 requires Council approval by Ordinance of a “material update” to an SIR.
- SMC 14.18 does not require material updates to go through the same process as the initial SIR.
- ITD has worked with stakeholders including Council Central Staff, OIG, City Auditor’s Office, City Attorney’s Office, and others to develop a working definition of “material update” and operationalizing a defined process for submission of updated SIRs. Reflected in Seattle IT POL-203 Surveillance Policy updates finalized at the end of 2022.

Material Update Designation & Identification

Material Update Criteria

Material changes include new capabilities and uses of the technology, not included in the Surveillance Impact Report (SIR) approved by Council, and are evaluated with consideration of the following categories:

- **Purpose:** The specific purpose(s) for the surveillance technology
- **Functionality:** The type of operations that can be run on the surveillance technology
- **Allowable Uses:** Authorized uses, the rules and processes required before that use, and uses that are prohibited
- **Surveillance Data:** Expanded scope of data collected or data processing activities associated with the technology (including changes in data sharing)
- **Data Retention:** What data is retained and for how long; includes changes in the storage of data
- **Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Impacts:** New or newly discovered negative impact(s) as reported by the CTO's annual Equity Impact Assessment

Identifying Material Updates

- It is incumbent upon departments that own or operate the surveillance technology to report any material change to ITD as soon as they are aware of the change.
- ITD will engage with departments 90 days prior to the annual CTO Equity Impact Assessment to inquire about any material changes not previously reported by departments.
- ITD will consult the City Auditor's and Office of the Inspector General's annual Usage Reviews, as applicable, to determine if any material changes have been made but not previously reported to ITD by a department.
- ITD will monitor technology procurement processes for anything that indicates that material changes may be made to existing surveillance technologies.

Designation and Identification of Material Updates reflected in [City's Surveillance Policy \(POL – 203\)](#)

Material Update Process Recommendation

Activity	Est Time to Complete	Responsibility
Update the SIR to reflect changes to technology, functionality, policy, etc...	Dependent on Department Resources and Timeline	Dept
Develop one-page overview of the changes	1 Week	Dept
Translate the one-pager into 7 tier 1 languages	1 Week	Dept
Post one-pager, including translated materials, and updated SIR on seattle.gov/privacy	1 Week	ITD
Open public comment via online form posted on seattle.gov/privacy site for 2-3 weeks (No public meeting will be held)	3 Weeks	ITD/Dept
Simultaneously, flag and encourage comment from the Surveillance Working Group	*N/A - Happens in tandem with posting	ITD/Dept
Close public comment window after 3 weeks & collect public comment; add comments to updated SIR	1 Week	ITD
Draft Legislation & ensure Executive Review	2 Weeks	Dept (with ITD guidance as needed)
Legislative packet transmission	Final Submission	Dept (with ITD guidance as needed)

Seattle Police Department SIR Material Update: Forward Looking Infrared Real-Time Video (FLIR)

Brian Maxey, Chief Operating Officer, SPD

Forward Looking Infrared Real-Time Video (FLIR)

What is the technology?

- Two King County Sheriff's Office helicopters with Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) send a real-time video feed of ongoing events to commanders on the ground.
- This technology provides a platform for aerial photography and digital video of large outdoor locations (e.g., crime scenes and disaster damage, etc.).

Why do we use the technology?

- Rapid response to crime or disaster scenes.
- Provides a bird's eye view of events happening on the ground.
- FLIR technology allows for subjects to be detected even when obscured by haze or darkness.



FLIR – How It Works

- King County Sheriff's Air Support Unit is operated by the King County Sheriff's Office and is available to assist the Seattle Police Department at no charge through the Puget Sound Regional Aviation Project and the Seattle Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI).
- FLIR systems use heat emitted by subjects and objects to provide enhancement to images of active scenes.
- The FLIR systems cannot see into homes or other structures.



What is the FLIR Material Update?

- This update covers SPD's use of the video downlink provided by the KCSO Guardian helicopters.
- The Maple Leaf facility houses the receivers, decoder, and IP encoder equipment necessary to allow personnel to view live streamed video from the KCSO helicopters.
- This equipment is static and acts as a passthrough allowing personnel to view the live feed of visual information. No data or images from the video downlink are recorded or stored by SPD.
- The Maple Leaf Downlink site allows personnel to view the video from the downlink feed in real-time only.

FLIR – Policies Governing Use

- King County Sheriff's Office Air Support Unit (SPD Policy 16.060)
- Evidence (SPD Policy 7.010, 7.090)
- Collection of Information for Law Enforcement Purposes (SPD Policy 6.060)
- Access to criminal justice information and records (SPD policies 12.050 and 12.080)
- Use of department email and internet (SPD Policy 12.110)
- Use of cloud storage services (SPD policy 12.111)
- <http://www.seattle.gov/police-manual>

Questions