

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE

Department:	Dept. Contact:	CBO Contact:
Seattle Police Department	Nick Zajchowski, SPD	Geoffrey Detweiler

1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to surveillance technology implementation; authorizing approval of uses and accepting the 2024 surveillance impact report and 2024 executive overview for the Seattle Police Department’s use of Closed-Circuit Television Camera Systems; amending Ordinance 126955, which adopted the 2024 budget; and lifting a proviso.

Summary and Background of the Legislation: Pursuant to SMC Chapter 14.18 (also known as the Surveillance Ordinance), any City department intending to acquire surveillance technology shall, prior to acquisition, must obtain Council ordinance approval of the acquisition and a surveillance impact report for the technology. This legislation authorizes the approval of the Surveillance Impact Report (SIR) for the Seattle Police Department’s use of Closed-Circuit Television Camera Systems and lifts an associated proviso on the 2024 appropriations to implement this program.

The City of Seattle is exploring new technologies to help deter and detect criminal activity in specific locations where gun violence, human trafficking, and persistent felony crime is concentrated. The Technology Assisted Crime Prevention Pilot Project is a new public safety program that will combine a Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) System with Real-Time Crime Center (RTCC) software together in one view. The group of new technologies is one component to an overall One Seattle Safety Framework and will help the City’s public safety response to aid victims, hold accountable those responsible for gun violence, alert real-time crime center staff to a serious criminal event, see multiple streams of information overlaid on a map view, and convey that information to officers who are responding in the field. Based on the police department’s analysis of concentrated crime, we have chosen three locations for the pilot project: (1) Aurora Avenue North in North Seattle, (2) the Chinatown-International District, including Little Saigon, and (3) the Third Avenue corridor downtown.

Public Safety Committee Amendments: The following amendments to this legislation were adopted by the Public Safety Committee on September 24, 2024:

1. Amendment 1: This amendment removes mention of the City Auditor from a recital regarding the evaluation component of the pilot project. This change is consistent with the intended implementation of this program, and more accurately reflects the role of the Office of the Inspector General for Public Safety as the designated oversight body for SPD surveillance programs, rather than the City Auditor.
2. Amendment 2: This amendment requests that SPD include certain terms in any contract executed with a third-party vendor for RTCC technology, requires SPD to notify Council of attempts to seek data via request to the vendor, and requires SPD to submit such contract to Council by December 31, 2024.

3. Amendment 3: This amendment substitutes revised a Surveillance Impact Report (SIR) expanding the proposed North Aurora Avenue CCTV pilot site. The revised SIR extends the location of Aurora camera deployment south to 85th Street (originally 95 Street), and north to 145th Street (originally 130th Street), and includes updated maps. The expansion authorized by this amendment will require additional funding to implement beyond the amount previously appropriated for this pilot project.
4. Amendment 4: This amendment directs the Seattle Police Department, as part of the planned evaluation of the Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) Systems pilot, to study the appropriateness, feasibility, and cost of future potential CCTV camera deployments in other areas of the city including the Alki and Harbor Avenue areas of West Seattle, as well as potential use for additional public safety concerns including unlawful racing.
5. Amendment 5: This amendment requires SPD to report back to the Public Safety Committee when the evaluation of the Technology Assisted Crime Prevention Pilot is complete.
6. Amendment 6: This amendment prohibits SPD from disclosing certain Closed-Circuit Television Camera data pursuant to public records requests unless required to do so by law.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project? Yes No

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Does this legislation have financial impacts to the City? Yes No

3.d. Other Impacts

Does the legislation have other financial impacts to The City of Seattle, including direct or indirect, one-time or ongoing costs, that are not included in Sections 3.a through 3.c? If so, please describe these financial impacts.

Appropriations of \$1,500,000 were included in the 2024 budget for the crime prevention pilot project but are currently subject to a budget proviso relating to the completion of a Racial Equity Toolkit as part of the Surveillance Impact Report (SIR), which this legislation lifts. The project is currently in preliminary phases of planning due to SIR process. There may be additional costs and positions associated with this project post-SIR approval as the project planning effort increases.

A dependency for the deployment of CCTV cameras is the acquisition of Real-Time Crime Center (RTCC) software, which brings cameras and other systems together in one single viewing platform. To save licensing costs, SPD is planning to forego the purchase of video management system licenses and use the RTCC software as the viewing and management platform for the CCTV cameras. Bringing video and other information systems together in the RTCC platform will allow users to quickly assess an incident scene without toggling between windows of different applications.

If the legislation has costs, but they can be absorbed within existing operations, please describe how those costs can be absorbed. The description should clearly describe if the absorbed costs are achievable because the department had excess resources within their existing budget or if by absorbing these costs the department is deprioritizing other work that would have used these resources.

Please describe any financial costs or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation.

There are expected to be impacts in the form of efficiencies in deploying patrol officers and assisting with investigations. These impacts will be explored as part of the planned evaluation of the pilot.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

a. Please describe how this legislation may affect any departments besides the originating department.

This legislation does not affect other departments. The technology under review is used exclusively by the Seattle Police Department.

b. Does this legislation affect a piece of property? If yes, please attach a map and explain any impacts on the property. Please attach any Environmental Impact Statements, Determinations of Non-Significance, or other reports generated for this property.

No.

c. Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative.

i. How does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? How did you arrive at this conclusion? In your response please consider impacts within City government (employees, internal programs) as well as in the broader community.

The Surveillance Ordinance in general is designed to address civil liberties and disparate community impacts of surveillance technologies. Each Surveillance Impact Review included in the attachments, as required by the Surveillance Ordinance, include a Racial Equity Toolkit review adapted for this purpose.

ii. Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses in the development and/or assessment of the legislation.

iii. What is the Language Access Plan for any communications to the public?

The SIR documents are translated into the tier 1 recommend languages and are posted online.

d. Climate Change Implications

i. Emissions: How is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way? Please attach any studies or other materials that were used to inform this response.

No.

- ii. **Resiliency: Will the action(s) proposed by this legislation increase or decrease Seattle’s resiliency (or ability to adapt) to climate change in a material way? If so, explain. If it is likely to decrease resiliency in a material way, describe what will or could be done to mitigate the effects.**

No.

- e. **If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the specific long-term and measurable goal(s) of the program? How will this legislation help achieve the program’s desired goal(s)? What mechanisms will be used to measure progress towards meeting those goals?**

The pilot will be evaluated under a Continuous Impact Assessment framework. Outside academic subject matter experts will be retained to design and manage an evaluation plan with an assessment at the end of one year and another at the end of year two.

5. CHECKLIST

- Is a public hearing required?**
- Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required?**
- If this legislation changes spending and/or revenues for a fund, have you reviewed the relevant fund policies and determined that this legislation complies?**
- Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP project that involves a shared financial commitment with a non-City partner agency or organization?**

6. ATTACHMENTS

Summary Attachments: None.