

WORK SESSION AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

City Council



STAFF

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SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION

Update on Surveillance Technology Governance Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this item is to seek feedback from Council on a proposed framework designed to guide the development of a comprehensive citywide surveillance technology governance policy.

GENERAL DIRECTION SOUGHT AND SPECIFIC QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED

1. What feedback does Council have regarding the policy framework?
2. What feedback does Council have regarding the community engagement plan?

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

As technology related to surveillance has changed in recent years, community member questions and concerns have arisen over how the City uses this technology. As it continues to evolve, the City requires a structured approach to ensure we protect community privacy, civil rights, and public trust while still allowing for the responsible, efficient use of technology to support municipal operations.

Modern municipal operations rely on various technologies to manage traffic, support public safety, secure public facilities, and improve service delivery. However, without a unifying policy, the procurement and deployment of these technologies can create community concerns regarding privacy, data retention, and equity. By centering the policy on how technology is actually used, the City can avoid over-regulating routine municipal operations (e.g., standard traffic management, facility security) while maintaining robust, accountable governance over other uses that garner more community concern such as surveillance.

Rather than implementing a rigid ban on specific technologies, staff is proposing a proactive surveillance technology governance policy framework. The cornerstone of this framework is a use-based approach:

- Routine Operational Use: Technologies deployed for standard administrative or safety functions (e.g., utility metering, standard facility access control, basic traffic flow sensors) will not be in scope of this policy.

- Use-Based: Technologies or deployments that involve collection of personally identifiable information (PII) or public monitoring will be in scope of this policy.

To ensure the final policy is reflective of community values, the community engagement plan will include the following:

- Our City Digital Platform & Survey: Launching an interactive project webpage and community-wide survey to gather broad feedback
- Colorado Humanities Community Listening Sessions: Convening 25 community members representing diverse perspectives
- Public Safety Technology Showcase: Hosting an in-person event to demonstrate existing City technologies, answer technical questions, and gather direct resident feedback
- Boards and Commissions Presentations: Gather input at the Citizen Review Board and the September Super Issues Meeting

NEXT STEPS

Next steps are to conduct community engagement to gather public feedback and incorporate that feedback into a draft policy to be shared on Our City page in late October. Staff anticipate an additional Council Work Session on November 10, 2026, to share the final draft of the policy and incorporate any feedback for Council consideration of policy adoption on December 1, 2026.

ATTACHMENTS / LINKS

1. Presentation