**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**
**CITY OF McCLEARY**
**WASHINGTON**

EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 2026-0002
MAYOR ANDREA DAHL
October 28, 2026

AN EXECUTIVE ORDER DISCONTINUING THE RECORDING OF CITY-OWNED AND CITY-OPERATED SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS, LIMITING SUCH CAMERAS TO REAL-TIME LIVE MONITORING ONLY, DIRECTING THE DEACTIVATION OF RECORDING FUNCTIONS, PROVIDING FOR THE RETENTION OF EXISTING RECORDINGS, AND RELATED MATTERS.

**WHEREAS,** the City of McCleary is committed to protecting the privacy, civil liberties, and constitutional rights of residents, visitors, and businesses within the Cit; and

**WHEREAS,** the use of government-operated video surveillance systems raises concerns regarding privacy, government transparency, data security, and the potential for misuse of collected information; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of McCleary finds that the continued recording and retention of video footage by a city-wide surveillance camera system is not necessary to accomplish the City's current operational objectives; and

**WHEREAS,** the collection and retention of video recordings create ongoing administrative, storage, records management, and public disclosure obligations; and

**WHEREAS,** the existence of recorded footage may expose the City to increased legal costs and potential litigation regarding public records requests, retention schedules, disclosure requirements, privacy concerns, evidentiary preservation obligations, and claims arising from the use or release of such recordings; and

**WHEREAS,** the City finds that reducing the collection and retention of video records serves the public interest by minimizing privacy concerns, reducing legal exposure, and limiting unnecessary accumulation of government-held records;

NOW, THEREFORE, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of McCleary, I, ANDREA DAHL, do hereby order as follows:

**Section 1. Termination of Recording Activities.** Effective immediately upon signature of this Executive Order, all City-owned and City-operated surveillance cameras shall cease recording

video footage. Such cameras may continue to provide real-time, live monitoring only, with no capability to record, store, or retain video footage.

**Section 2. Deactivation of Recording Functions.** All employees responsible for the operation of surveillance equipment shall:

(1) Disable all video recording functions;

(2) Disable all motion-activated recording features;

(3) Disable all cloud-based or local storage functions associated with surveillance cameras; and

(4) Ensure that no new video footage is created or retained after the effective date of this Order.

The City may elect to leave camera hardware in place in a non-recording status for equipment preservation, maintenance, or future policy review, but no footage shall be collected or stored.

**Section 3. Existing Recordings.** This Executive Order applies prospectively only. All video recordings created before the effective date of this Executive Order shall be retained and managed in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local laws and the City's established records retention schedules and policies. Nothing in this Executive Order requires, authorizes, or shall be construed to require the deletion of any existing recording.

**Section 4. No Future Recording Without Authorization.** No City employee shall resume recording, retain video footage, install new recording equipment, or reactivate surveillance recording systems unless specifically authorized by future action of the City Council or Mayor.

**Section 5. Exemptions.** Nothing in this Executive Order shall be construed to prohibit, restrict, or otherwise affect the use of:

(1) Body-worn cameras utilized by law enforcement personnel in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, departmental policies, and evidentiary requirements; or

(2) In-car or dashboard camera systems installed in police vehicles.

The intent of this Executive Order is to discontinue the routine operation and recording of fixed city-wide surveillance cameras monitoring public spaces and rights-of-way. Nothing herein shall impair the ability of law enforcement officers to utilize body-worn cameras, dashboard cameras, or other authorized recording equipment as required for public safety, accountability, evidence collection, and compliance with state law.

**Section 6. Findings.** The City finds that the discontinuation of surveillance recording serves the public interest by:

(1) Ending the routine collection of video records concerning the public;

(2) Reducing records retention and storage costs;

(3) Limiting risks associated with public records requests and disclosure obligations;

(4) Reducing potential legal liability arising from retention, preservation, or release of surveillance footage; and

(5) Promoting public confidence through a reduced reliance on municipal surveillance.

**Section 7. Effective Date.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon signature.

**DATED** this 28 day of October, 2026.

**CITY OF McCLEARY:**

Andrea Dahl

Andrea Dahl, Mayor