

# Surveillance Technology Working Group

Meeting #73

3/10/2025

# Agenda

- Bus Arm/Red Light Camera's Update
- Drone as First Responder
- Cybercheck
- Next Steps
- Questions

# DPW – Bus Arm/Red Light Camera's Update

## **DPW and Administrative Update on Cameras Hours of Operation**

- Leah Witmer, Chief Administrative Law Judge for the Bureau of Administrative Adjudication, and Neil Milcarek-Burke, Director of Special Projects with DPW are joining to discuss.

# Drone as 1st Responder SPD

Email	<a href="mailto:rshoff@syracusepolice.org">rshoff@syracusepolice.org</a>
Name	Richard Shoff
Which City department is requesting this technology?	Police (SPD)
Who will be the department contact for this technology?	Lt. Williams / Sgt Wells
Please give a brief description about the technology that you are looking to implement?	Purchase & Implementation of UAS and any other associated software and/or equipment to support UAS flights.
Do you have a vendor selected that you would like to work with?	Yes
What is the name of the vendor?	Vendor NM Electronics / Company DJI
Are you looking for this to be a pilot program or a new technology implementation?	Update to current existing technolgy
What will be the purpose of this new technology? What do you hope to accomplish with this?	To improve efficiency of the The Department, improve quality of life for residents and increase Officer safety.
Do you know where the information that is obtained will be stored?	Yes - In the vendor database

Who is the intended audience for this system?	All 3 above (City Employees, Administrators, Community Members)
Do you know how long you plan on using this technology?	Yes - More than 5 years
Is this a piece of physical hardware or software?	Both Hardware and Software
How many physical units are you hoping to procure?	21 units
What type of information would be captured from this technology?	Video footage
Is there anything else about this technology that you would like to let us know about?	Not at this time

## Public Comments

- We received 141 responses
- They can be viewed [HERE](#)

Number of Responses	141	Percentage
Positive View of Technology	29	21%
Negative View of Technology	95	67%
Questions/Other	17	12%



## Stipulations

- Nico and Johannes put together an initial draft of stipulations, which can be viewed [here](#)

# SPD – Cybercheck Digital Footprint Tracker

## Cybercheck

- Responses were received on 2/11/2024. Can be viewed [HERE](#)
- Have started a Draft version of a release for the Public Comment Period
  - This was sent to Comms team on Feb. 25th
- Next Steps

# Questions



# Reference Slides

# Review

## Past Decisions

- **Fotokite:** Aerial UAS allowing for different perspectives during crisis response. Not exempt, will go through the process.
  - Press Release out, done with public comment period
  - Public comments received, received comments from SPD
  - Recommendation was sent to the Mayor
- **Vacant Lot Monitoring:** Sensor that detect changes in a scene to monitor lots for dumping. Not exempt, will go through the process.
  - Press Release out, done with public comment period
  - Grandfathered in because the request was made before review process
- **Community Asset Tracker:** Camera with machine learning algorithm to identify objects within the city.
  - Assessed pilot, documentation provided
- **COPS:** Cameras strategically placed around the city to aid in policing
  - Exempted

# Review

## Past Decisions

- **Samsara:** Fleet management technology
  - Assessed in previous session
  - Public comment period completed
  - Recommendation was sent to the Mayor on 2/01
  - Mayor Walsh stated that he read the groups recommendations, and is in agreement with a **qualified approval**, and is in agreement with the importance of putting in appropriate policies and procedures.
- **Flock Safety/ALPRs:** Street cameras that capture vehicle plates.
  - Assessed in previous session
  - Public comment period completed
  - The Work Group heard from SPD Officers on 1/25/22 for more information regarding this.
  - The STWG created guidelines for ALPR Use and this was recommended to the mayor with the stipulations written on 3/11/22.

# Review

## Past Decisions

- **Cyclomedia:** Right of Way Imaging
  - Public comment period completed
  - Recommendation was sent to the Mayor on 5/07/22
  - Mayor Walsh stated: I have reviewed the STWG's recommendation and I am in agreement with it.
- **Dataminr:** Social Media monitoring of violent posts.
  - Dataminr staff met with STWG on 6/21/2022.
  - Dataminr then removed their offer of service on 6/21/2022.
- **Rubicon:** Vehicle route optimization software
  - STWG met on 9/27/22 and this was determined to not be a form of Surveillance
- **Opticom:** Software that in an event of an emergency the Fire Department could switch the traffic lights on their route to turn green for them.
  - STWG met on 12/06/22 and this was determined to not be a form of Surveillance



# Review

## Past Decisions

- **Body-Worn Camera's (Code Enforcement):**
  - Recommendation was sent to the Mayor in Sept. 2023
  - Mayor Walsh signed a letter stating that he is in agreement with the groups determination.
- **Automated Speed & Redlight Enforcement Technologies (DPW):**
  - Recommendation was sent to the Mayor in April 2024
  - Mayor Walsh signed a letter stating that he is in agreement with the groups determination of qualified approval.

# Review

## Internal Norms

### Attendance:

1. If members have unjustified absences for three meetings in a three month time period, the Surveillance Team Working Group (STWG) Coordinators will reach out to the member.
2. The working group is required to have at least 50% of all members present before we hold a recommendation vote.
  - a. Of those present at least 40% should be non-city staff.

### External Participants:

1. Outside participants should request permission before-hand to the API team.
  - a. The API team will inform the STWG before meetings if there will be outside participants joining the group.

### Documentation for Community Review:

1. The notes from the STWG Sessions will be posted to the STWG Website after the meetings.

### Letter of Commitment:

1. Is effective for one year, and is to be sent out annually.

[View Attendance and Guest Norms](#)

# Review

## Service Level Agreements (SLAs)

2 - 6 Weeks  
(10 - 30  
Business Days)

Initial submission to  
determination of  
surveillance

Every 2 Weeks  
(10 Business Days)

Short duration  
meeting to vote on  
technology  
exemptions

2 Weeks  
(10 Business Days)

Public comment period:

- Issuance of press release
- Council meeting

2 Weeks  
(10 Business Days)

Submission of finalized form  
(by dept.) to time of  
recommendation.

Group will individually  
research; departments will get  
follow-up questions; group to  
vote yes/no; and submit  
recommendation.

# STWG Planning (Review)

Update STWG  
Website ☒ (Complete)

- Tech Recommendations
- Meeting Notes and Slide Decks

Connect with other cities doing  
Surv. Tech Work

Revamp our approach to  
community engagement

Complete Citywide departmental  
training

- Determine Schedule for refresher trainings (annually or every 6 months)

Complete an audit of technologies currently used by the City as  
Surveillance or Not ☒ (Complete)

Release an Annual  
Report ☒ (Complete Dec. 2023)

- Including recommendations, data that came from recommendations, and if stipulations are being followed.

Short Term  
(April – June  
2022)

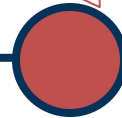
Medium Term  
(July – September  
2022)

Long term  
(October 2022 –  
December 2023)

# STWG Long Term Plan (Review)

Begin process of trying to transfer STWG to a **City Ordinance**

Determine Member's **Term Duration** ☒ (Complete – 1 year, with optional extentions)



Requires more planning

# Definition

## **Definition of a Surveillance Technology (According to [Mayor's Executive Order on Surveillance Technology](#)):**

- Technologies that “observe or analyze the movements, behavior, or actions of identifiable individuals in a manner that is reasonably likely to raise concerns about civil liberties, freedom of speech or association, racial equity or social justice.”