

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	rshoff@syracusepolice.org
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 technology
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 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 extention)

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.”