COLUMBIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL SURVEILLANCE TECHNOLOGY REPORT

2024

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COLUMBIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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ANNUAL SURVEILLANCE

TECHNOLOGY REPORT

Content

Introduction

The implementation of technology has significantly enhanced the capabilities of the Columbia Police Department in many ways. First, it facilitates the collection and analysis of extensive data, enabling the identification of patterns and trends in criminal behavior, which in turn supports more focused and effective policing strategies. Moreover, tools like surveillance cameras, license plate readers, and data analytics play a crucial role in identifying precise suspects. Communication technologies, including radios and mobile devices, further improve response times and coordination among officers. In summary, leveraging technology boosts the overall effectiveness and efficiency of police departments in both crime prevention and resolution.

To ensure transparency and oversight in protecting civil rights and liberties, the City Council passed the Surveillance Technology Ordinance, mandating an Annual Surveillance Technology Report to be submitted to the Council. This report is intended to inform the council about the use of such technologies. The Annual Surveillance Technology Report is submitted in compliance with the City of Columbia Law Enforcement Surveillance Oversight Ordinance, which requires documentation and public disclosure of surveillance technology and usage by the Columbia Police Department

Report Elements

- A general overview of the usage of Surveillance Technology, including the locations and neighborhoods where the technology or equipment was implemented.
- A general overview of whether and how frequently data obtained through Surveillance Technology was shared with external entities, the types of data involved, and the general reasoning for the disclosures.
- A summary of complaints lodged by community members about Surveillance Technology.
- The outcomes of any internal audits mandated by the Surveillance Use Policy, along with details regarding any violations of the Use Policy.
- Information, including crime statistics where relevant, that assists the City Council in evaluating the effectiveness of the Surveillance Technology in meeting its stated objectives.
- An evaluation of any discriminatory or other negative effects that the use of surveillance technology may have had on the civil rights and liberties of the public.
- An overview of total costs, as feasible, encompassing personnel, maintenance, and other ongoing expenses related to the Surveillance Technology, along with anticipated funding requirements for the technology as necessary.
- Any proposed changes to the Surveillance Technology Use Policy.

Definitions

These definitions cover key terms related to technologies used by the Columbia Police Department as referenced in this report.

- **Downtown Cameras**: Surveillance within the Central Business District is maintained through a network of PTZ (pan-tilt-zoom) cameras. These fixed-position cameras provide real-time monitoring and recording capabilities, with coverage focused on public thoroughfares.
- **Static Video Surveillance Camera:** Permanently installed video recording devices positioned at fixed locations to provide continuous monitoring of designated areas. These cameras capture and record visual data without the capability to pan, tilt, or zoom, maintaining a constant field of view.
- **Body-Worn Cameras (BWC)**: Audio and video recording devices worn by Columbia Police Officers, Community Service Aides, and Crime Scene Investigators while carrying out their duties and engaging with the public.
- **Mobile Audio Video (MAV)**: Audio and video recording devices installed in marked police vehicles to capture audio and visual activity both inside and around the vehicle's vicinity.
- **Automatic License Plate Readers (ALPR)**: Camera systems designed to capture and process license plate information from passing vehicles. These devices use optical character recognition (OCR) to read license plate numbers, which are then checked against databases to identify vehicles of interest, such as those reported stolen, linked to criminal investigations, or associated with missing and endangered persons.
- **Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS):** A remotely controlled or autonomous aircraft (drone), along with its control station and communication links, primarily used for surveillance, reconnaissance, and data collection without an onboard pilot. UAS are employed in a limited capacity to support operational units with video assistance during critical incidents. They can be utilized for purposes such as accident scene reconstruction, managing crowds at events like parades, and locating missing individuals.

Deployed Technologies

The following outlines the surveillance technology deployed in 2024, along with details on their use.

DOWNTOWN CAMERAS
(UNKNOWN MANUFACTURER)

The downtown cameras were intended to enhance the safety of residents and visitors in the downtown area by recording activity on public sidewalks and streets. The intent was to use the recorded footage to assist in identifying and prosecuting individuals who commit crimes in the downtown area.

General Description

In the summer of 2011, eight cameras were installed in four locations downtown. Front desk staff were able to monitor the downtown cameras during peak bar hours. This is an aging system and presently only one camera is operational at the intersection of Hitt Street and Broadway and is a static camera.

Data Sharing

Only one downtown surveillance camera remains operational, down from the original eight. While supervisors, detectives, and front desk personnel can access this camera after obtaining credentials from City IT, its effectiveness is minimal due to its fixed position and limited field of view. Other agencies would have to make a request to obtain any footage. If footage would ever be used for a criminal case, it would be shared with the Boone County Prosecutor's Office or the City of Columbia's Prosecutor's Office for criminal proceedings. The Public Defender's Office may obtain footage upon request. Members of the public can also make open records requests following the process for any other city record.

Citizen Complaints

The Columbia Police Department did not receive any complaints concerning the Downtown Camera during 2024.

Impact on Crime

In its current format, the single Downtown camera is outdated, low resolution, and static, significantly limiting its effectiveness for policing purposes. These limitations create several specific challenges:

The outdated camera hardware produces poor image quality, making identification of individuals, vehicles, or activities difficult. Low resolution means that crucial details like clothing details, license plates, or specific actions often cannot be discerned from footage, particularly in low-light conditions or adverse weather.

Being a static camera (fixed position without pan, tilt, or zoom capabilities), it provides limited coverage of the Downtown area. This creates numerous blind spots and prevents officers from following incidents as they develop across multiple locations.

These technical shortcomings directly affect policing outcomes in several ways:

- Limited Evidentiary Value: The footage rarely provides conclusive evidence that can be used for prosecution or investigation purposes.
- Minimal Deterrence Effect: The presence of a single outdated camera likely has a negligible impact on deterring criminal activity.
- Inefficient Resource Allocation: Officers cannot rely on the camera system to monitor the area effectively, therefore requiring more physical patrols.
- Reactive Rather Than Proactive: The system only allows for after-the-fact review rather than real-time intervention, as the department does not employ full-time monitoring.

Given these limitations, the current camera represents a low return on investment for the police department and the community. The maintenance costs and officer time spent reviewing poor-quality footage likely outweigh the minimal benefits in terms of crime prevention or case resolution.

Modern urban surveillance systems typically employ networks of high-definition cameras with pan-tilt-zoom capabilities and improved night vision - allowing for wider coverage, better image clarity, and more effective monitoring of the Downtown area.

Discriminatory or Adverse Impact

The department is unaware of any evidence to suggest this system has any discriminatory impact on any group.

Total Cost

The initial cost in 2011 was $73,863.50, which included the cost of hardware, software, infrastructure, and installation. Presently, the system requires no specific operational funding from the Police Department. However, without resources for updates and maintenance, the equipment has deteriorated to the point of being unusable for law enforcement. Due to its outdated technology, the cameras cannot be integrated into the City's modern CCTV software platform. This led the Department to develop a modernization plan, and in 2024, the Council approved the replacement of these systems with FLOCK cameras.

Assessment

The outdated Downtown Camera system no longer meets operational needs and is not capable of fulfilling its intended purpose.

Requested Modifications

The single camera will be replaced through the implementation of FLOCK Safety cameras in spring 2025.

BODY WORN CAMERAS
(AXON ENTERPRISE - SCOTTSDALE, AZ)

Body-worn cameras serve as essential tools for the Columbia Police Department. They provide accurate documentation of police-citizen interactions, arrests, and critical incidents while enhancing the accuracy of officer reports and court testimony. These cameras also assist officers in documenting crime scenes, accidents, and situations involving evidence collection. Through this technology, the department can ultimately foster transparency and accountability in police operations.

General Description

The Columbia Police Department pioneered the use of body-worn cameras in Missouri, implementing Axon Enterprise's camera system department wide in 2014. These devices, worn by police personnel, capture their interactions with citizens and automatically upload the recorded footage to Evidence.com, making it accessible to supervisors, investigators, and court officials. The footage has proven invaluable in various contexts, including administrative investigations, officer-involved shooting inquiries, and criminal cases.

The department's current inventory comprises 192 body-worn cameras, distributed among officers, detectives, Community Service Aides, and Crime Scene Investigators, with additional units maintained in reserve.

Data Sharing

The Columbia Police Department regularly shares body-worn camera footage with multiple entities, including the Boone County Prosecutor's Office and the City of Columbia's Prosecutor's Office, for criminal proceedings. The Public Defender's Office also obtains footage upon request. Members of the public can also make open records requests following the process for any other city record.

Citizen Complaints

The Columbia Police Department did not receive any complaints concerning body-worn cameras during 2024.

Internal Audits

Supervisors conduct random reviews of body-worn camera recordings at least once per month. These reviews verify that the equipment is functioning correctly, confirm that officers are using the cameras correctly and following policy, and identify where officers may need additional training or guidance. Also, officers self-report when they fail to activate their issued body-worn cameras via internal auditing software.

During 2024, there were 39 self-reported instances of body-worn camera non-activation or recording disruptions, which involved 39 employees. These incidents were addressed through measures ranging from verbal counseling to retraining, aligning with progressive discipline principles. To put this in context, officers, CSAs, and CSIs had 114,533 community interactions in 2024, each potentially requiring BWC activation. The rate of recording failures or interruptions was approximately 0.03% of all interactions. It's worth mentioning that in cases where an officer failed to activate their body-worn camera, the interaction may still have been captured by other officers' cameras at the scene and/or by the MAV (Mobile Audio/Video).

Impact on Crime

Body-worn cameras (BWCs) represent a significant advancement in law enforcement's evidence collection capabilities, providing objective documentation of interactions that has transformed investigative processes and prosecutorial outcomes.

BWCs capture crucial evidence that might otherwise be unavailable or contested, including:

- Real-time documentation of crime scenes before they can be disturbed or evidence deteriorates
- Unaltered records of witness statements taken immediately after incidents
- Clear documentation of suspect behavior, statements, and physical evidence
- Verification of legal compliance during searches and seizures
- Contextual information that traditional written reports cannot convey

This enhanced evidence collection power has demonstrated measurable impacts on criminal justice outcomes. Prosecutors report that BWC footage strengthens cases by providing indisputable visual evidence that corroborates officer testimony and physical evidence. In jurisdictions with established BWC programs, conviction rates for certain offenses have increased, particularly for cases historically difficult to prosecute due to evidentiary challenges.

The evidentiary value extends beyond prosecution. BWC footage has proven instrumental in exonerating officers from false accusations, but also has been used to identify areas where departmental training or policy improvements are needed. The cameras have also provided critical evidence in use-of-force investigations, offering context that might otherwise be unavailable.

Analysis of Discriminatory or Adverse Impact

The implementation of Body-Worn Cameras (BWCs) is a vital part in promoting transparency and accountability during police-community interactions. This technology provides objective, real-time documentation of encounters, which is critical for addressing concerns related to discriminatory behavior and adverse impacts on marginalized communities. By capturing audio and video evidence, BWCs can help identify any possible policy violations and support investigations into those allegations of misconduct. Additionally, the use of BWCs reinforces a commitment to equitable policing

practices, helping to build trust and confidence within the community while holding officers accountable for their actions.

Total Cost

The Columbia Police Department is marking its tenth year of body-worn camera implementation in 2024. Throughout this decade, they have cycled through multiple contracts. Currently, the department is in the last year of a five-year contract. The initial cost of $282,450 was paid in 2021, followed by an annual licensing/service fee of $24,975 for years two through five. Body-worn cameras create additional time-intensive costs as officers and supervisors must catalog and examine footage, while staff members need to review and redact recordings when responding to public records requests and legal subpoenas.

Assessment

Body-worn cameras have revolutionized modern policing by serving as a critical accountability and transparency mechanism between police departments and the communities they serve. These devices provide an objective record of police encounters that benefits both law enforcement and civilians. For police departments, the cameras offer valuable evidence for investigations and training opportunities while helping to protect officers from unfounded complaints. For the public, these recordings ensure greater oversight of police conduct and help build trust by allowing independent verification of officer actions during contentious situations.

Requested Modifications

Despite pioneering this technology a decade ago, our department has unfortunately rested on its laurels for the past ten years while technology has advanced significantly. We now face critical infrastructure challenges that require immediate attention and additional funding. Our current storage capacity has reached its limits, and if expanded, it would align with the Civilian Police Review Board's (CPRB) recommendation for longer retention periods of crucial evidence. The expansion would allow the department to retain video for 365 days, the same time period a citizen has to complain under current city ordinance.

Additionally, we need to implement modern features that have become standard in other departments, including intelligent auto-tagging systems to ensure valuable evidence is not overlooked or lost in the vast amounts of collected data. This automatically syncs

metadata from CAD/RMS systems to Evidence.com. (CAD: Computer Aided Dispatch/RMS: Records Management System). This automation will streamline evidence management workflows, minimize human error in documentation, and safeguard investigations by reducing the risk of evidence mishandling or premature deletion.

The technology should also be upgraded to include automatic recording activation when an officer draws their firearm or Taser, eliminating human error during high-stress situations when manual activation can easily be overlooked due to the concentration of manipulating a firearm.

Furthermore, integration capabilities with our Mobile Audio/Video (MAV) systems are essential to create a comprehensive digital evidence ecosystem. This synchronization would provide multiple angles of incidents, creating a more complete record and eliminating gaps in documentation that currently exist between our separate systems. These technological enhancements represent not just improvements but necessary modernizations to a system that has remained stagnant for too long. With appropriate funding and commitment to implementation, we can once again position our department at the forefront of policing technology and accountability.

Policy Link

Policy 447 Body Worn Cameras

MOBILE AUDIO VIDEO
(MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS - CHICAGO, IL)

The Mobile Audio Video Recorders capture police interactions with the public, traffic violations, and the transportation of individuals in custody.

General Description

The Columbia Police Department currently equips all marked patrol vehicles and the BearCat with WatchGuard Mobile Audio Video Recorders (MAV). Each system features two cameras: a forward-facing camera that documents interactions during traffic stops and an interior camera monitoring the backseat area where detained individuals are transported. The recording system activates automatically under set conditions: when emergency lights are turned on or when the vehicle reaches specific speeds. Officers can also start recording manually when needed. All footage is stored on WatchGuard's server, where authorized personnel including supervisors, investigators, and court officials can access

it. The recordings serve multiple purposes, supporting administrative reviews, investigations into officer-involved shootings, and criminal cases.

Data Sharing

The Columbia Police Department regularly shares Mobile Audio Video footage with multiple entities, including the Boone County Prosecutor's Office and the City of Columbia's Prosecutor's Office for criminal proceedings. The Public Defender's Office obtains footage upon request, and members of the public may obtain recordings through Sunshine Law requests.

Citizen Complaints

The Columbia Police Department did not receive any complaints concerning Mobile Audio Video system during 2024.

Internal Audits

Supervisors regularly perform random audits of MAV recordings to ensure proper procedures are followed specifically checking that the MAVs are tested at the starts of shifts, while also verifying that chain of custody and appropriate evidence tagging.

Impact on Crime

Mobile audio-video footage serves as crucial evidence in criminal prosecutions, similar to that of BWC footage, providing visual and audio documentation to support legal proceedings.

Analysis of Discriminatory or Adverse Impact

There is no evidence to suggest that Mobile Audio Video has any discriminatory impact on any group. Its primary purpose is to provide transparency in police/community interactions.

Total Cost

Each new system costs $6,100.40 and is typically purchased with new vehicles.

Assessment

The department's locally maintained WatchGuard servers require attention, as they

need to be upgraded, replaced, or expanded to meet storage demands. While video evidence has become essential in nearly all criminal proceedings, the department's current system presents limitations. Although WatchGuard provides acceptable video quality, more advanced solutions are now available. These newer systems offer improved integration capabilities, particularly in connecting with officers' body-worn cameras and the department's dispatch system. New solutions would create a more cohesive and efficient evidence management platform.

Requested Modifications

It is recommended implementing the Axon Fleet 3 in-car video system to consolidate all video evidence into a unified management platform, establishing streamlined storage and simplifying the department's digital video evidence ecosystem. This is discussed above under the BWC section.

Policy Link

Policy 446 Mobile Audio Video

AUTOMATIC LICENSE PLATE READERS (LEONARDO - BREWSTER, NY)

Automatic License Plate Readers provide law enforcement with a system that automatically scans and identifies license plates potentially linked to criminal activity, while also helping locate vehicles of interest by alerting personnel to their whereabouts in time-sensitive situations like Amber and Silver Alerts.

General Description

Currently, Automatic License Plate Readers (ALPR) are mounted on two (2) Columbia Police Department vehicles. The cameras scan the license plates of motor vehicles as they pass and then notify personnel if the plates are entered into the ALPR database as associated with active investigations, such as missing persons, stolen vehicles, or stolen license plates. The license plates are saved in a database that can be searched later if a user is looking for a specific vehicle. The Columbia Police Department's hardware is currently operated using ELSAG software, which is hosted by the Boone County I.T. Department.

Data Sharing

Presently the data is hosted by the Boone County I.T. Department.

Citizen Complaints

The Columbia Police Department did not receive any complaints concerning the Automatic License Plate Readers during 2024.

Internal Audits

While the existing ALPR policy requires "regular" system audits, it lacks specific guidelines for their execution and timing. The new proposed policy provides a comprehensive auditing framework that details the audit frequency, methodology, and procedures. Notably, the new policy also identifies a third party (City Manager) that will receive and review the audit findings.

Impact on Crime

Since implementing Automatic License Plate Reader technology in 2010, the Columbia Police Department has extensively integrated this system into their daily operations. Officers and detectives have leveraged the technology in hundreds of cases, from locating stolen vehicles to apprehending murder suspects and violent criminals. The ALPR system has proven to be a valuable investigative tool across a wide spectrum of crimes, from theft to homicide, becoming an essential component of both investigative work and routine patrol duties. This impact has been achieved with only two marked patrol vehicles equipped with ALPR. With more patrol vehicles outfitted with this technology, the impact on crime could be significant.

Analysis of Discriminatory or Adverse Impact

Automatic License Plate Reader technology captures only the vehicle's license plate information and does not collect any personal or identifying details about the individuals inside the vehicles.

Total Cost

CPD operates two (2) Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) systems: a newer system acquired in March 2024 at a cost of $21,027.00 and an older system purchased in August 2015 for $18,050.00. After each system's initial warranty expires, there is an annual warranty/maintenance fee of $995, which can be extended for up to five years.

Assessment

While this technology has proven to be an invaluable investigative resource and has

helped solve countless crimes throughout its service life, the current system is approaching the end of its life and is scheduled for replacement in the upcoming budget cycle.

Requested Modifications

The department recommends adopting the Axon Fleet 3 in-car video system, which combines mobile audio/video (MAV) capabilities with automated license plate recognition (ALPR) functionality. This integration would enable the department to maintain its own ALPR database rather than using a database hosted by the Boone County I.T. Department. Additionally, consolidating these systems under a single vendor would streamline operations.

Policy Link

Policy 460 Automated License Plate Readers (ALPR)

UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS (UAS)
(DA-JIANG INNOVATIONS (DJI) - Shenzhen, China)

The UAS program utilizes aerial technology to gather live data during critical situations, including locating missing individuals, documenting accident scenes, supporting SWAT operations, monitoring crowd conditions, and detailing crime scenes.

General Description

The use of the department's Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) operations are strictly controlled, requiring personnel to complete mandatory training and obtain necessary permits, certificates, authorizations, and waivers before deployment. These systems primarily serve to provide aerial views during public safety emergencies, law enforcement activities, and exigent circumstances, with all deployments requiring authorization from an on-duty supervisor and notification to the UAS Commander or designee. The systems serve multiple critical functions including providing situational awareness to help law enforcement decision makers understand incidents and plan effective responses, supporting search and rescue operations for missing persons including AMBER and Silver Alerts, documenting crime and accident scenes, offering real-time aerial perspectives for crowd control and traffic management such as during major interstate incidents, and supporting tactical deployments of officers and equipment in emergency situations to enhance response effectiveness and promote both civilian and officer safety.

Data Sharing

The Police Department does not have data-sharing agreements with other jurisdictions, although during operations, other agencies may view images captured by the drones. Examples include other law enforcement agencies during mutual aid incidents, Columbia Fire Department personnel, or EMS personnel during festivals or downtown parades.

Citizen Complaints

The Columbia Police Department did not receive any complaints about the UAS program in 2024.

Internal Audits

To operate a UAS, prior approval from a supervisor is needed, though the policy contains no explicit auditing requirements.

Impact on Crime

During barricaded subject incidents, the Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) has proven invaluable for conducting preliminary searches of structures while maintaining officer safety. By deploying the UAS through open windows or doors, tactical teams can quickly gain visual intelligence of the interior layout, subject location, and potential hazards without exposing officers to immediate danger. This tool enables tactical commanders to develop more informed entry plans, significantly reducing the risk to officers and suspects during the eventual tactical response.

Documented incidents have shown that subjects have fired upon and destroyed UAS devices during barricaded subject calls. These cases demonstrate the lifesaving potential of drone technology, as the aircraft effectively absorbed gunfire that might otherwise have been directed at officers. In several instances, subjects who were willing to shoot at a drone showed clear intent and capability to use deadly force, confirming the high-risk nature of these encounters.

The destruction of UAS equipment, while costly, represents a tactical success when viewed through the lens of officer safety. Each drone hit by gunfire potentially represents an officer who avoided injury or death. This perspective reframes the loss of equipment as an acceptable operational cost when weighed against human life.

UAS systems also provide critical intelligence gathering capabilities that allow tactical teams to:

- Maintain a safe standoff distance while monitoring subject movements
- Identify weapons or improvised threats before officer exposure
- Communicate with barricaded subjects through drone-mounted speakers
- Record evidence of criminal activity or threats for later prosecution
- Determine the optimal entry points and tactical approaches
- Monitor multiple angles simultaneously during dynamic situations

This technology has become an essential component of modern tactical operations, particularly for high-risk warrant service, hostage situations, and armed standoffs where subject intent and capability to inflict harm cannot be fully determined through traditional means.

Analysis of Discriminatory or Adverse Impact

There is no evidence to suggest UASs have any discriminatory impact on any group.

Cost

2019-2020 Legacy UAS (Surplus)

The DJI Matrice M210 v2, a large quadcopter purchased in 2019 ($23,255), and the DJI Spark, a small quadcopter acquired in 2020 at no cost, are no longer in service and will be moved to surplus.

2021 Training UAS Units

Two DJI Air 2s medium quadcopters were purchased in 2021 ($1,413 each). Both units are currently undergoing repairs and, if salvageable, will be dedicated to training purposes.

2024 Active UAS Units

The current operational units consists of five UAS:

- One DJI Matrice M30 Thermal large quadcopter ($13,630) for extended outdoor operations, including missing person searches, event monitoring, and aerial documentation of crash and crime scenes.
- Two DJI Mavic 3 Thermal medium quadcopters ($5,849 each) for rapid deployment in both indoor and outdoor scenarios, particularly useful for tracking fleeing subjects and monitoring smaller events.
- Two DJI Avata small quadcopters ($2,064 each) specifically designed for indoor operations in confined spaces, such as SWAT barricade situations and interior searches.

Two software subscriptions support our UAS operations: Airdata ($2,240 annually) provides flight logging and live streaming capabilities, while Faro ($1,080 annually) enables crime scene mapping and accident reconstruction capabilities.

Assessment

The Missouri legislature is currently considering multiple bills that would prohibit the use of foreign-manufactured UAS, which would impact the Columbia Police Department's current drones. This proposed legislation mirrors laws already enacted in other states and would establish new restrictions on police UAS operations. Based on the current language of these bills, the department would likely maintain its ability to deploy UAS for critical functions including missing person searches, crime scene documentation, public safety incidents, and tactical operations. However, compliance with this legislation would require significant financial investment to replace the department's existing UAS platforms with approved alternatives.

Requested Modifications

No changes are recommended at this time, as the department awaits potential legislative updates.

Policy Link

Policy 439 Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)

Report Summary

The Columbia Police Department's surveillance technology program demonstrated both stability and forward momentum in 2024. Body-worn cameras maintained an extremely high activation rate across more than 114,000 community interactions, while ALPR systems and UAS units provided crucial support in numerous investigations and tactical operations. The department is actively modernizing its technological infrastructure, as evidenced by the planned replacement of outdated downtown cameras with FLOCK Safety cameras and the proposal to implement and update the Axon platform across the department.

Looking ahead, the department faces both opportunities and challenges in its technology program. A critical investment is needed to increase the capabilities of the digital evidence management system. This investment will allow the department to fulfill its requirements to the Citizen Police Review Board (CPRB) by retaining video for a year, thus mirroring the complaint ordinance; enabling auto-tagging to minimize human error in tagging video evidence; integrating MAV and BWC on the same system for optimal evidence management and integrity; and implement comprehensive auditing and compliance across all surveillance platforms by storing data on Evidence.com with unlimited storage capacity. While the planned integration of systems under the Axon ecosystem promises improved efficiency and streamlined operations, potential state legislation regarding foreign-manufactured UAS equipment may require significant investment in replacement systems.

The department has revised and updated the following policies to comply with the Law Enforcement Surveillance Oversight Ordinance: Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) and Fixed Camera Sites (Policy 460), Body-Worn Cameras (Policy 447), Mobile Audio Video (Policy 446), and Unmanned Aircraft Systems (Policy 439). These updated policies will be submitted to the City Manager and published on the department website as specified in the ordinance.

The department remains committed to balancing technological advancement with privacy protection while ensuring these tools effectively serve both law enforcement needs and community safety.