

THE CITY OF FREDERICK
MAYOR AND BOARD OF ADLERMEN

RESOLUTION NO: 23-01

A RESOLUTION concerning
The City of Frederick Security Camera Policy

BACKGROUND

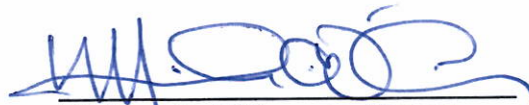
The Board of Aldermen finds that the adoption of a city-wide security camera policy is in the best interests of the residents of the City of Frederick. The policy attached hereto establishes certain key elements pertaining to both public security cameras and internal security cameras. As further described in the policy, the primary objectives of the security camera system are to enhance safety and security while respecting individual rights; to protect property from loss and damage; and to reduce the fear and incidence of crime. The policy includes a statement regarding the protection of privacy and civil liberties, which will inform any internal policies or standard operating procedures that may be developed in order to implement the operation of security cameras.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF FREDERICK, That the Security Camera Policy attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by this reference is hereby adopted.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS 5th DAY OF January, 2023.

WITNESS:





Michael C. O'Connor, Mayor

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:



City Attorney

The City of Frederick Security Camera Policy



FREDERICK
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

**Mayor and Board of Aldermen of The City of Frederick
FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Approved

Resolution No.

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Reviewed by: Gayon Sampson, *Chief of Staff*

Definitions

Public security camera - is a camera in a public place or where public access is allowed, where there is no reasonable expectation of privacy.

Internal security camera – is a camera inside or outside of City facilities/buildings where public access is restricted.

Overview

This policy was created to establish standards and oversight of the City of Frederick's internal and public security camera system.

The existence of this policy does not imply or guarantee that security cameras will be monitored in real time continuously or otherwise.

Scope

This policy applies to all City departments and employees that maintain and operate security cameras.

Objectives

The primary objectives of the security camera system are to:

1. Enhance the safety and security of residents, visitors, and employees in the City of Frederick while vigorously respecting the privacy rights of all individuals.
2. Protect and safeguard City assets and property from loss, damage, vandalism, or theft.
3. Reduce the fear and incidence of crime in the City of Frederick by providing investigative resources to law enforcement.

Protection of Privacy & Civil Liberties Statement

The City of Frederick is committed to protecting the individual rights and liberties when deploying and maintaining camera technology. This policy acknowledges the importance of protecting the privacy rights of all individuals and attempts to safeguard against any side effects of surveillance technology, including, but not limited to:

- Discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, veteran status, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, or any other legally protected group,
- The possibility of abuse,
- The potential for chilling effects on creativity and freedom of expression, and
- Disparate racial impacts that worsen existing social injustices.

Privacy protections have been written into this policy and will be included in any internal policy and/or standard operating procedures. These protections include the following:

- The public security camera system is only used to observe public places or where public access is allowed, where there is no reasonable expectation of privacy.
- The system is used primarily to monitor wide areas. Arbitrary or discriminatory tracking of individuals is expressly prohibited by policy and regulation.
- A system operator shall not use the pan, tilt, or zoom features of a public security camera in a way that targets individuals absent a reasonable suspicion of criminal activity or for risks to public safety.

- The audio recording functions of the cameras will be turned off at installation.
- The system does not use facial-recognition or other biometric technologies. If they exist, it will be turned off or not enabled at installation.
- Unauthorized use or misuse of the system may result in revocation of privileges and/or disciplinary action.
- The capabilities and uses of the public camera system will be limited only to achieve the primary objectives.
- Signs may or may not be posted indicating where permanent cameras are deployed in public areas.

Policy Exceptions

Frederick Police Department

The Frederick Police Department maintains additional camera equipment for law enforcement purposes. This camera equipment may be overt, covert, fixed site, or mobile depending on the needed application. Due to the sensitive nature of criminal investigations and the need to maintain investigative integrity; these specific cameras controlled and maintained by FPD will follow FPD camera policies and are exempt from the provisions of this policy.