

AN ACT

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To amend Chapter 25 of Title 24 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations governing the Metropolitan Police Department's Closed Circuit Television system to authorize its use in the prevention, detection, deterrence, and investigation of crime.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the "Use of Closed Circuit Television to Combat Crime Amendment Act of 2006".

Sec. 2. Chapter 25 of Title 24 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations is amended as follows:

DCMR

(a) Section 2500.1 is amended by striking the phrase "within the Synchronized Operations Command Complex (SOCC)".

(b) Section 2500.2 is amended by striking the phrase "and (2) to coordinate traffic control on an as needed basis." and inserting the phrase "(2) to coordinate traffic control on an as-needed basis; and (3) to combat crime as authorized by § 2508." in its place.

(c) Section 2502.1 is amended to read as follows:

"2502.1 The Chief of Police shall provide public notification prior to the deployment of any permanent cameras, except:

"(a) Under exigent circumstances; or

"(b) When cameras are deployed pursuant to a court order.".

(d) Section 2504.2 is amended by striking the phrase "SOCC personnel will enter activation information, including the disposition of any observed incidents, into the running resume of the daily SOCC report, including" and inserting the phrase "MPD personnel will record activation information, including the disposition of any observed incidents," in its place.

(e) Section 2505.4 is amended by striking the phrase "of the SOCC".

(f) Section 2505.11 is amended by striking the phrase "SOCC staff shall maintain a video catalog" and inserting the phrase "MPD personnel shall maintain a video catalog" in its place.

(g) A new section 2508 is added to read as follows:

"2508 USE OF CCTV TO COMBAT CRIME

"2508.1 The Chief of Police is authorized to use the CCTV system for the purpose of

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

preventing, detecting, deterring, and investigating crime in neighborhoods in the District of Columbia.

“2508.2 The Chief of Police shall, at a minimum, consider the following factors prior to using the CCTV system to combat crime:

“(a) The number and type of calls for service in the proposed CCTV camera location;

“(b) Any crimes that were committed in the proposed CCTV camera location; and

“(c) A request or recommendation made by the Advisory Neighborhood Commission, or a civic or citizen association; and

“(d) Any other objectively verifiable information from which the Chief of Police may ascertain whether the health, safety, or property of residents who live in the proposed CCTV location are endangered by crime or other illegal activity.

“2508.3 The Chief of Police shall have the final authority to decide where to place a CCTV camera or CCTV cameras for crime-fighting purposes, although the Chief of Police shall be required to give consideration to locating cameras within public housing developments in Hot Spot Areas.

“2508.4 When CCTV is used to combat crime, recordings may be passively monitored, meaning that the video feeds may not be monitored in real time, and recordings may be viewed by MPD personnel where there is reason to believe that the viewing may help solve a crime.

“2508.5 The Chief of Police shall consult with the relevant Councilmember and the relevant ANC Commissioner prior to deploying CCTV cameras to combat crime. An ANC, or a civic or citizen association, upon determination of need, may submit a request to the Chief of Police that a CCTV camera be placed in its neighborhood.

“2508.6 On or before February 15, 2008, the Chief of Police shall report to the Mayor and to the Council on the cameras’ effectiveness at preventing, detecting, and solving crime since their installation. The report shall also evaluate whether the presence of cameras served to displace criminal activity. The effectiveness of the cameras shall be evaluated using, but not limited to, the following factors:

“(a) The rate of crime in the specific area in which a surveillance camera is located from the date of the camera’s installation until January 1, 2008, compared with the rate of crime in the same PSA within the previous 2 years;

“(b) The number of calls for service, including calls for service for public disorder, drug activity, and prostitution, in the specific area in which a surveillance camera is located from the date of the camera’s installation until January 1, 2008, compared with the number of calls for service in the same PSA within the previous 2 years;

“(c) The same information in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection in the PSAs that surround the PSA in which the specific area is located, for the purpose of measuring any potential displacement of crime caused by the deployment of the Closed Circuit Television Cameras in the specific areas;

“(d) General crime trends in the specific area within a PSA in which a surveillance camera is located, the PSAs surrounding the specific areas, the specific areas’ police districts,

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

and the District of Columbia, within the previous 4 years;

“(e) The number of crimes in the specific areas detected and reported to the Metropolitan Police Department because of the presence of the video surveillance cameras; and

“(f) The number of crime investigations aided by the Closed Circuit Television Cameras, and a description in each case of how the camera was helpful to the investigation, during the period July 19, 2006 to January 1, 2008.

“2508.7 The report due February 15, 2008 shall also state the Metropolitan Police Department’s long-term plan for the use of CCTV cameras to combat crime, including:

“(a) Changes to the program, if any;

“(b) Ultimate number of cameras to be installed;

“(c) How CCTV cameras will be integrated with other crime-fighting measures; and

“(d) Estimated fiscal impact of the long-range CCTV plan.”.

(h) Section 2599.1 is amended to read as follows:

“2599 DEFINITIONS

“2599.1 When used in this chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings ascribed:

“ANC – Advisory Neighborhood Commission.

“Chief of Police – The Chief of Police or his or her designee.

“Closed Circuit Television or CCTV – Any live video link that is electronically received into any MPD property.

“Demonstration – A temporary presentation of the capacity of the CCTV system to visitors of the MPD.

“Exigent Circumstances – Unanticipated situations that threaten the immediate safety of individuals or property within the District of Columbia; provided, that the cameras have no greater scope or capabilities than reasonably necessary to achieve a legitimate law enforcement purpose.

“External Video Feeds – Any video link received by MPD on a live basis from a source other than MPD.

“MPD - Metropolitan Police Department.

“PSA - Police Service Area.

“Public Entities – District of Columbia, state, or federal agencies.

“Public Notice or Notification– Notice that includes at a minimum, but is not limited to, publication in the District of Columbia Register, posting on the MPD website, written notice to the relevant Councilmember, written notice to the relevant ANC Commissioner, and issuance of a press release.”.

Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

The Council adopts the December 4, 2006 fiscal impact statement of the Chief Financial Officer as the fiscal impact statement required by section 602(c)(3) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

206.02(c)(3)).

Sec. 4. Effective date.

This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day of Congressional review as provided in section 602 (c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)).

Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia

Mayor
District of Columbia