



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS

KATJANA BALLANTYNE

MAYOR

Memorandum

To: Legislative Matters Committee

From: Somerville Police Department

Date: April 30, 2024

Subject: Response to questions related to item 24-0145

1. Where are the GLX cameras located?

Broadway @ Boston Ave, Broadway @ Cedar Street, Cedar @ Highland Ave, and Tufts Street @ Washington Street.

2. Does STIR for GLX camera permits use for criminal investigations?

As noted in the Surveillance Technology Impact Report (STIR), the cameras can be used for criminal investigations. "The camera's primary use is to monitor traffic in relation to the GLX project. The Homeland Security Sergeant is the primary liaison for the company that maintains them, Lantel, and the Boston Office of Emergency Management. Cameras can be also accessed in case of public emergency, accident investigation, or criminal investigation."

3. What, if any, is the legal standard under which the information for E911, Gray Key, DHS Cameras and ShotSpotter, is disclosed?

SPD provides surveillance technology data to other Law Enforcement Agencies and the District Attorney's Office when commanded by subpoena, pursuant to a request under M.G.L. c. 66 (the Public Records Law), and under the terms of the pertinent Massachusetts Mutual Aid Agreement.

4. What happens to incidental information accessed during use of Gray Key?

As noted in the STIR, the technology cannot be used to collect personal information unrelated to the investigation. The information gathered must be relevant to the investigation as indicated in the search warrant.

5. Cost for storage maintenance of DHS cameras?

As noted in the STIR, the cameras are purchased by UASI. "UASI funds paid for installation and maintenance of the cameras so there is no cost to the city. The Homeland Security Sergeant and the Special Operations Lieutenant are in charge of managing and maintaining video operations in the SPD as part of their assigned duties."

6. ShotSpotter - Were 24 shells recovered at the sites where the alerts happened?

The casings recovered are in total and all of the casings reported are related to ShotSpotter notifications.

7. ShotSpotter expansion and auditing.

No internal audit has been conducted by the Somerville Police Department. The department continues to communicate with ShotSpotter regarding any ambiguous or contested detections. The City of Somerville has not made any decisions regarding expansion of ShotSpotter.