

High Activity Location Observation (HALO) Cameras

Denver Police Department
Joseph Montoya, Division Chief

February 1st, 2022

Outline

1. Request
2. Review of HALO & its Use
3. Q&A

Request

Resolution 22-0120: Approves a Master Purchase Order (MPO) for \$1,440,000 with Stone Security for HALO Camera Maintenance and Installation for 11/30/2021 – 11/30/2026.

This is a 3-year MPO, with two one-year renewal options.

This contract is funded through the Department of Safety's approved annual General Fund budget allocation.

About HALO

The Denver Police Department's (DPD) Real Time Crime & Information Center operates a system of cameras and related hardware referred to as the High Activity Location Observation (HALO) system.

HALO cameras were implemented in the City & County of Denver in 2007. In 2019, the HALO team began its transformation into the Real Time Crime & Information Center.

The purpose of the HALO system is to increase the safety and security of the community. HALO cameras are able to be the first eyes-on-scene and can support first responders in their response to calls.

About HALO (cont'd)



The HALO system is subject to periodic audits from DPD, the Technology Services Department, and the Denver Auditor's Office.

The retention of HALO camera footage is governed by strict policy and oversight.

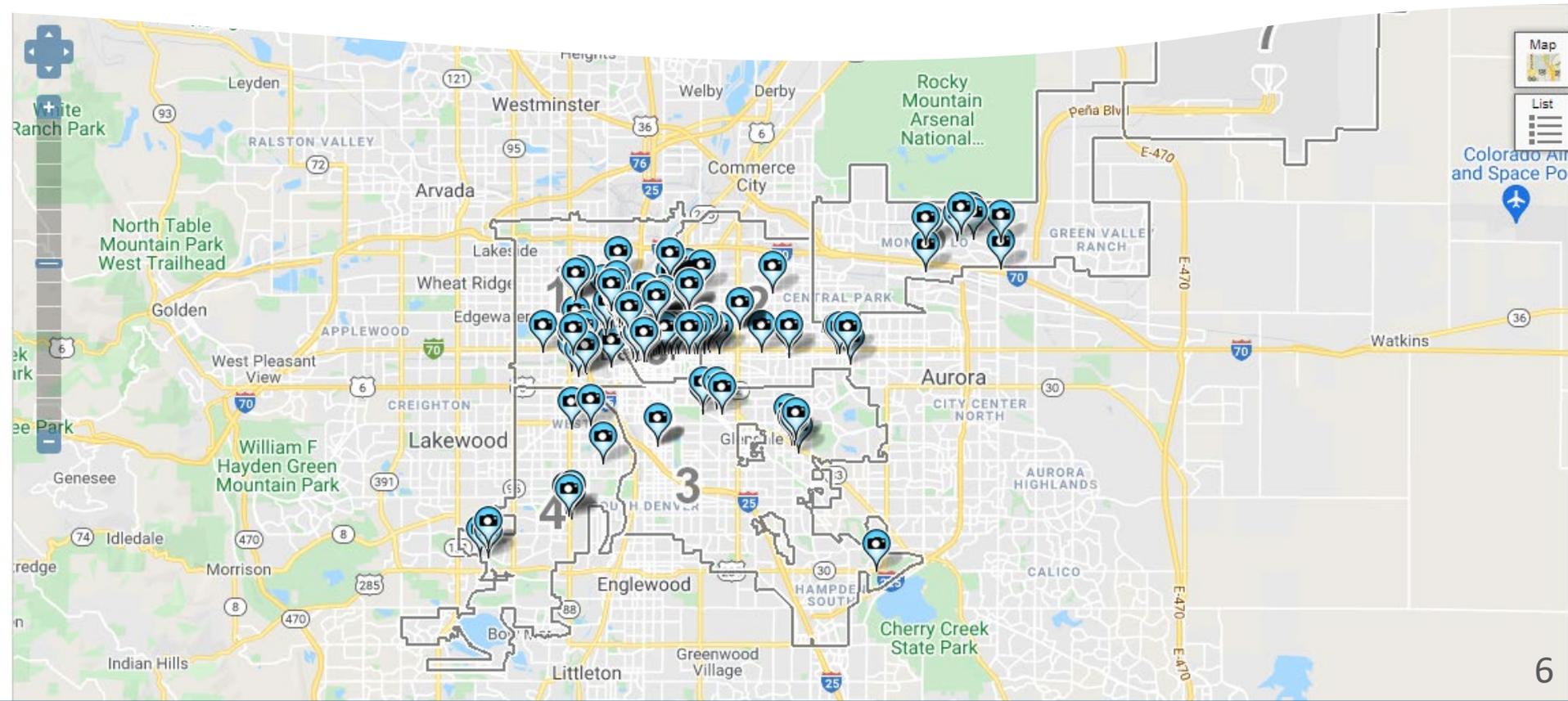
DPD's policy for retention was also reviewed and vetted by the Chief Data Protection Officer for the City, during a risk impact assessment initiative at the end of 2019.

HALO is not facial recognition technology. Facial recognition software is not authorized by DPD.

HALO Camera Locations

A map that identifies the location of Denver Police Department HALO cameras can be found on the City's website at:

<https://www.denvergov.org/maps/map/halocameras>



HALO Staffing

The HALO team is housed within DPD's Real Time Crime & Information Center. The team is composed of 11 civilians: 1 supervisor and 10 technicians. The HALO team works 10 hour shifts to provide in-person staff coverage and monitor high priority calls daily from 7:00am – 3:00am, 365 days per year.

HALO staff must pass a background check and drug screening prior to employment. They are also required to sign a confidentiality declaration upon employment, ensuring they will maintain confidentiality regarding or related to the information they are tasked with monitoring. The confidentiality agreement is required to be signed annually.

HALO Operations

- The Denver Police Department currently operates 276 HALO cameras.
- When monitoring a situation (e.g., a car accident where someone may be injured or that is causing traffic safety issues), the HALO technician does not say who they believe to be at fault. Rather, their role is to say what they see and communicate appropriately with first responders.
- Technicians are both proactive and reactive. The cameras they operate and utilize include both fixed and PTZ (pan, tilt, zoom) cameras.
- In addition, Technicians manage video requests. These requests may come from City Attorneys, District Attorneys, investigators, defense counsel, or others relating to cases.

911 & HALO

HALO camera technicians communicate directly with 911 dispatchers to support various aspects of the emergency response. They can:

- Have eyes on a scene prior to the arrival of first responders. In some instances, it may result in the need for additional resources, which the HALO technician can communicate to the 911 dispatcher.
- Communicate with DPD & dispatchers when other first responders have arrived on scene (EMS).
- Support navigating traffic congestion to assist the safe travel and arrival of first responders.

Examples & Importance of HALO

- Examples
- Assists in getting first responders to the right calls and provide additional resources as needed.
- Allows for a quicker response to an emergency or incident that a victim is experiencing.
- Helps keep situations from further escalating by providing responding officers with real time actionable information.
- Can be utilized to either corroborate or exonerate allegations of criminal activity.





Questions?