



Safety and Well-being Committee Summary Minutes

Tuesday, October 28, 2014 1:30 PM City & County Building, Room 391

Committee Members: López, Chair; Faatz, Vice-Chair; Brooks; Kniech;
Lehmann; Susman

Committee Staff: Gretchen Williams

Council Members Present: Faatz, Kniech, Lehmann, Lopez, Susman, Herndon, Robb
Members Absent: Brooks

Bill Requests

BR14-0918 Approves the \$1,279,369 maximum contract with Hitachi Data Systems through 9-30-17 for Police HALO video system management, maintenance and expansion (201417115-00).
Police Captain Rhonda Jones; Jeannie Springer, Finance, Department of Safety

Sergeant Jess Leuthauser and Detective Boyles presented background on the HALO (High Activity Location Observation) program. The goal of HALO is to enhance the safety and security of residents.

Currently, there are 160 cameras recording (no audio) 24 hours per day in public places. Tapes are held for 30 days in case a criminal investigation needs one of them. Monitors are in the HALO Center in the Police Headquarters building, and the live feed is being viewed 16-20 hours a day. In addition to the 160 HALO cameras, the Department has access to 700 Denver and CDOT traffic cameras. The new body cameras will also become the responsibility of the HALO unit in 2015.

The Control Center can dispatch cars to an area if illegal activity or dangerous situations are

viewed on camera. Generally, though, they are watching specific locations where criminal activity has been reported.

In most camera locations, signs identify the area as under surveillance, but even if there are no signs, the cameras are identifiable. None are concealed, and none are directed into private spaces. Drug deals are done in view of cameras, and one was stolen.

Sergeant Leuthauser said the cameras only point in one fixed direction, but they have excellent zoom capability. They can zoom in and get a license plate a block away. And the film is very high quality.

Councilman Lopez cited a case in which a pedestrian was hit, the driver left the scene, but the car was identified from the HALO camera tape.

A motion offered by Councilmember Kniech, duly seconded by Councilmember Lehmann, to file the bill carried by the following vote:

AYES: Herndon, Faatz, Kniech, Lehmann, Lopez, Susman(6)
NAYS: (None)
ABSENT: Brooks(1)
ABSTAIN: (None)

Presentations

1

2015 Building and Fire Code Adoption Process

Jill Jennings Golich, Community Planning & Development; Chief Joe Gonzales, Fire Department

Jill Jennings Golich, Community Planning & Development, and Chief Joe Gonzales, Fire Department, presented to the Committee. The presentation is attached to this summary. This was a briefing on how the Community Planning & Development Department (CPD) and the Denver Fire Department (DFD) will update the Building and Fire codes in accordance with the 2015 International Code (I-Codes). While the intent is to minimize the number of local amendments, the process is designed to explore suggested amendments and adopt any deemed appropriate.

The 2009 I-Codes were adopted in 2011 following a process utilizing many staff and building industry volunteers familiar with the codes who combed through the language and debated local amendments before presenting the proposal to a combined Board of Appeals with representatives from the Building and the Fire departments. There were concerns voiced that this process did not provide an adequately transparent public process.

Staff from CPD and DFD are currently studying the changes in the 2015 I-Codes and comparing them to local codes and situations.

Two groups – Building Code Revision Committee and Fire Code Revision Committee - composed of people with interest in and knowledge of the appropriate codes have been meeting as well. The staff reviews will further inform their deliberations. Public hearings

on amendments by subject will begin in January.

Amendments from the public will be taken until Dec. 19 at 5:00 pm. A proposal form is available at www.denvergov.org/buildingcode. This page will provide notice of all meeting dates for committees and task forces and will have copies of all amendments received for consideration.

The goal is to present the proposed package to City Council for a public hearing and adoption in June 2015. Codes become effective 4 months after adoption.

Issues raised by the Committee included:

- Having all of the appropriate people on the review committees.
- Giving appropriate focus to energy usage and green, sustainable buildings, especially having hands-on practitioners at the table.
- Determining reasonable street widths for Fire apparatus access as soon as possible.