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MOTION JAN 14 2014

PUBLIC SAFETY

The successful implementation of technological advances in law enforcement has been proven to reduce crime, increase the safety of our City's residents and provide additional safeguards for the lives of the officers of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD). In the last several decades the use of technological advances, such as closed circuit video and cameras positioned on law enforcement vehicles has provided a wealth of new tools not only for crime solving, but also for the prosecution of crimes by the City and District Attorneys across the nation.

In the wake of the tragic Boston Marathon bombings, closed circuit video and other digital imagery played a critical role in the identification of the bombing suspects. Council File # 13-0486 calls for City of Los Angeles to review its options for improving the way law enforcement utilizes not only video and digital imagery but also the use of license-plate reading camera technology in the law enforcement arena.

The Westside Coalition is a group formed by community leaders, activists and volunteers dedicated to bettering the lives of the residents of the City. The Westside Coalition has proposed to introduce the Westside Coalition Community Safety Project (WCCSP), the mission of which is to provide a public benefit and to improve the safety and quality of life of the residents of the City of Los Angeles

The WCCSP consists of a program of infrastructure, made up of video and license plate-reading cameras located throughout the Century City and surrounding communities where communities have chosen to participate in the project. This infrastructure will serve as a force multiplier for the LAPD, as a crime prevention and crime solving tool. The cameras will be mounted on the both private poles as well as public street lights, traffic lights and telephone poles. The cameras, ongoing camera maintenance and the entire system, will be installed and maintained at no cost to the City or its residents. The WCCSP system infrastructure is designed to accommodate growth should other neighborhoods wish to become part of the system. It will provide significant safeguards for residents so that no personally identifiable information is ever jeopardized by the system. The system, as a secondary benefit, will be able to produce information that will ultimately reduce vehicle traffic and save the City millions of dollars otherwise spent on traffic studies, as the WCCSP will provide traffic data to the City without charge.

The WCCSP represents an opportunity for the City of Los Angeles to implement a pilot program for the use of new public safety technologies - at no cost to tax payers. It is an excellent chance for the City to determine what works, and what doesn't work, as we move forward with making Los Angeles the most technologically advanced city in the nation.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Los Angeles Police Department, the Department of Transportation, the Office of the City Attorney and the Chief Legislative Analyst engages directly with the Westside Coalition and report to the Public Safety Committee within 30 days with an outline and implementation plan for the expeditious introduction of WCCSP in the City.

  
JAN 14 2014

PRESENTED BY:   
PAUL KORETZ  
Councilmember, 5<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY: 

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