HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

No. 25-128

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF OVERT VIDEO MONITORING IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU IN CITY PARKS.

WHEREAS, Section 2-32.1, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("ROH"), defines "overt [video] monitoring" as monitoring of which a reasonable person would be aware; and

WHEREAS, ROH Section 2-32.1 defines "legitimate law enforce objective" as "[t]he detection, investigation, prevention, or deterrence of crime, protection of a person or property from harm, or the apprehension and prosecution of a suspected criminal or traffic violator"; and

WHEREAS, ROH Section 2-32.1 defines "legitimate public purpose" as the detection, investigation, prevention, or deterrence of violations of federal, State of Hawai'i, or City and County of Honolulu ("City") regulatory requirements, the evaluation of City programs and operations, the training of City personnel, the investigation of claims involving the City, and other activities supporting public functions; and

WHERAS, ROH Section 2-32.3(a)(6) provides for the use of overt video monitoring of public activity by the City from fixed locations for purposes as designated by the City Council via resolution, following the holding of a public hearing at which members of the public may express their views on the proposed monitoring and the proposed general areas where the monitoring will take place; and

WHEREAS, the City has a significant interest in deterring crime and providing a safe environment for City residents, visitors, and employees; and

WHEREAS, there are multiple reports of violent crimes occurring in parks operated by the Department of Parks and Recreation, the most recent being reports of gunfire on April 20, 2025, at Ala Moana Regional Park, which is one of the busiest parks on O'ahu and is frequently visited by tourists; and

WHEREAS, the Honolulu Police Department ("HPD") is currently dealing with a staffing shortage that would impact the department's ability to maintain a physical presence at City parks in order to detect and deter criminal activity; and

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WHEREAS, the HPD and other City departments are currently utilizing video surveillance cameras and installing additional video surveillance cameras at various locations within the City, including but not limited to Waikīkī, downtown Honolulu, East O'ahu, and westside City parks; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that it hereby authorizes the Honolulu Police Department and its designees to use overt video monitoring in City parks as authorized by this resolution for a one-year pilot program, in order to achieve the legitimate public purposes and legitimate law enforcement objectives as defined in Section 2-32.1, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("ROH"), including the detection and deterrence of criminal activity and ensuring the safety and security of the general public and its property; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Council that overt video monitoring under this one-year pilot program is authorized for at least one City park per Council district, to be identified by the Councilmember assigned to that Council district based on a pattern of high criminal activity at or ongoing public safety concerns for the respective park; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that overt video monitoring devices authorized under this resolution must be overt and clearly visible, with appropriate public signage to inform the public as set forth pursuant to ROH Section 2-32.3(b)(6); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no later than 60 days following the conclusion of the one-year pilot program authorized under this resolution, the Honolulu Police Department shall submit a report to the Council for the time period during which overt video monitoring is occurring at City parks as authorized by this resolution, describing the condition of the video monitoring equipment, reporting the latest available statistical data as to criminal activities at monitored City parks, assessing the impact of monitoring, and providing recommendations for the expansion, modification, or termination of overt video monitoring in City parks; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the provisions of this resolution will take effect upon the adoption of this resolution and compliance with the notice requirements provided in ROH Sections 2-32.3(b)(5) and 2-32.3(b)(6) and will remain in effect until one year after the Honolulu Police Department or its designees begin overt video monitoring under the provisions of this Resolution; and

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BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director, the Chief of Police, the Legislative Liaison Office of the Honolulu Police Department, the Director of Parks and Recreation, and the Director of Information Technology.

INTRODUCED BY:

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

APR 24 2025
Honolulu, Hawai'i

Councilmembers

Report Title:
Overt Video Monitoring; Honolulu Police Department ("HPD"); Department of Parks and Recreation ("DPR"); Parks; Criminal Activity; Crime Prevention; Crime Deterrence

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