REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY & CUSTOMER SERVICES

Voting Members:
Val A. Okimoto, Chair; Esther Kia'āina, Vice-Chair;
Scott Y. Nishimoto, Augie Tulba, Matt Weyer

Committee Meeting Held
May 29, 2025

Honorable Tommy Waters
Chair, City Council
City and County of Honolulu

Mr. Chair:

Your Committee on Public Safety & Customer Services, which considered Resolution 25-128 entitled:

"RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF OVERT VIDEO MONITORING IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU IN CITY PARKS,"

introduced on April 24, 2025, reports as follows:

The purpose of Resolution 25-128 is to authorize the Honolulu Police Department and its designees to use overt video monitoring in the City and County of Honolulu ("City") in City parks for a one-year pilot program in 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, in order to achieve the legitimate law enforcement objectives and legitimate public purpose of ensuring the safety and security of the general public and its property.

Assistant Chief Brian Lynch of the Honolulu Police Department, Deputy Director Ted Hayden of the Department of Parks and Recreation, and Deputy Director Stephen Courtney of the Department of Information Technology provided comments on the Resolution and responded to questions from the Committee.

ADOPTED ON JUN 4 2025

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 231

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Section 2-32.3 (a) (6), Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 (ROH) requires that the Council approve the purpose and use of any overt video monitoring of a public activity through the adoption of a resolution. Through the resolution and committee hearing process, the public is notified and has the opportunity to express their views on the proposed monitoring activities and possible sites.

At your Committee's meeting on May 29, 2025, two individuals testified in support of the Resolution.

Written testimony in support was received from three individuals. Testimony in opposition was received from one individual and one individual provided comments.

Your Committee finds that the overt video monitoring in City parks meets a legitimate law enforcement objective and is a legitimate public purpose, as defined in Section 2-32.1, ROH.

Your Committee amended the Resolution to a CD1 version which makes the following amendments:

A. Amends the title of the resolution to read as follows:

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

B. Replaces references to "City parks" with "City parks and City park and rides" in the sixth WHEREAS clause, the seventh WHEREAS clause, the BE IT RESOLVED clause, and the third BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED clause.

ADOPTED ON JUN 4 2025

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C. Amends the first BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED clause, which had provided overt video monitoring authorization to at least one City park per Council district, to be identified by the Councilmember assigned to that Council district, to instead specifically name the names of City parks and City park and rides identified by Councilmembers in Council Communication ("CC") - 153 (2025), CC-154 (2025), CC-155 (2025), CC-157 (2025), CC-158 (2025), CC-159 (2025), CC-160 (2025), CC-161 (2025), and CC-162 (2025).

D. Amends the BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED clause to add the Director of Transportation Services to the list of individuals who will receive a copy of the resolution.

E. Makes miscellaneous technical and nonsubstantive amendments.

Your Committee on Public Safety & Customer Services is in accord with the intent and purpose of Resolution 25-128, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as Resolution 25-128, CD1. (Ayes: Kia'āina, Nishimoto, Okimoto, Tulba – 4; Noes: None; Absent: Weyer – 1.)

Respectfully submitted,

Val A. Okimoto

Committee Chair

At the 6/4/25 Council meeting, the Resolution was further amended and subsequently adopted as Resolution 25-128, CD1, FD1.

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
Ke Kanihela o ke Kalana o Honolulu
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ADOPTED ON JUN 4 2025

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 231

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

No. **25-128, CD1**

RESOLUTION

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

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 City parks and City park and rides, including 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 and City park and rides in order to detect and deter criminal activity; and

RESOLUTION

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 and City park and rides 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 the following City parks and City park and rides:

Council District One:

- Herbert K. Piliā'au Community Park
- Kalaniana'ole Beach Park
- Kapolei Regional Park
- Lualualei Beach Park
- Mā'ili Beach Park
- One'ula Beach Park
- Pōka'ī Bay Beach Park
- Ulehawa Beach Park
- Wai'anae District Park

Council District Two:

- Parks to be determined by the Department of Parks and Recreation, Honolulu Police Department, and Department of Information Technology

Council District Three:

- Hūnānāniho (formerly known as Waimānalo Bay Beach Park)
- Kāne'ohe Community Park

RESOLUTION

latest available statistical data as to criminal activities at monitored City parks and City park and rides, assessing the impact of monitoring, and providing recommendations for the expansion, modification, or termination of overt video monitoring in City parks and City park and rides; 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 Section 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

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, the Director of Transportation Services, and the Director of Information Technology.

INTRODUCED BY:

Radiant Cordero

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

April 24, 2025
Honolulu, Hawai'i

Councilmembers

Report Title:
Overt Video Monitoring; Honolulu Police Department ("HPD"); Department of Parks and Recreation ("DPR"); Department of Transportation Services ("DTS"); Department of Information Technology ("DIT"); City Parks; City Park and Rides; Criminal Activity; Crime Prevention; Crime Deterrence; Herbert K. Piliāʻau Community Park; Kalaniana'ole Beach Park; Kapolei Regional Park; Lualualei Beach Park; Māʻili Beach Park; Oneʻula Beach Park; Pōkaʻī Bay Beach Park; Ulehawa Beach Park; Waiʻanae District Park; Hūnānāniho (Waimānalo Bay Beach Park); Kāneʻohe Community Park; Hawaiʻi Kai Park and Ride; Old Stadium Park; DeCorte Neighborhood Park; Fern Community Park; Kawaiahao Mini Park; Hālawa District Park; Kalākaua District Park; Salt Lake District Park; Lehua Community Park; Pacheco Neighborhood Park; Asing Community Park; Bill Balfour Jr. Waipahū District Park; ʻEwa Beach Community Park; Hans L'Orange Neighborhood Park

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