Date: April 6, 2017
To: Patrick H. West, City Manager
From: Bryan Sostokas, Director, Technology and Innovation Department
Robert Luna, Chief of Police
For: Mayor and Members of the City Council
Subject: Network Camera Program

During the past year, the Technology and Innovation (T&I) Department has been leading an effort to modernize and consolidate the City's Network Camera systems. The initiative has been a partnership between T&I, the Long Beach Police Department (LBPD), and the Public Works (PW) Department. Over the next two years, the City will build and migrate to a new technology foundation for the network camera system, including the new Civic Center cameras. In addition, the team will establish a new business operating model with key stakeholders to oversee consolidation, growth and sustainability. This memorandum provides an overview of this program.

Background

The City's Network Camera system is currently comprised of a Genetec-based camera system (472 units) and 30-plus closed-circuit camera systems (500-plus units).

The City's Genetec and closed-circuit camera systems have been implemented over a ten-year period. These cameras have served an effective role in enabling LBPD and City departments to view video during and after significant events. Over the past few years, camera and telecommunications component aging has led to outages and an increased need for routine repair or maintenance. Camera and telecommunications technology has changed and improved, requiring system modernization to integrate the current technology. In addition, we recognize that the City requirements for reliability, performance, and access have increased.

In order to deliver a new technology foundation for the City's network cameras, T&I's plan is to modernize Genetec-based camera system technologies including obsolete on-site equipment (e.g., analog cameras and encoders, clustering equipment, recording devices), backhauls (e.g., equipment using highly congested radio spectrums, or leveraging new city fiber circuits being coordinated by the master fiber program), and servers (e.g., outdated Genetec software and hardware). New construction projects like the Civic Center will adopt the latest camera system standards and be integrated at time of construction. T&I will advocate for closed-circuit camera systems to be modernized and consolidated into Genetec as opportunities and requests for repairs arise from City departments. Automated monitoring of the overall system health will be designed into the new technology foundation to improve reliability and performance.
In order to improve the business operating model, several components will be established or enhanced:

1) Staff from leading Departments (T&I, LBPD, PW, Finance) will meet monthly as the “camera steering committee” to review and coordinate system consolidation, growth and sustainability projects. New camera installs will be temporarily put on-hold until camera system modernization and sustainment programs can be established.

2) One-time appropriations will be requested for the Genetec-based camera system modernization (replacing components greater than four years old).

3) Annual appropriations will be requested for the Genetec-based camera system sustainment (replacing components at end-of-useful life).

4) Approval to spend the appropriations listed above, plus an additional amount to enable City department or Council District-funded camera initiatives to leverage the City purchasing agreements.

5) Additional T&I staffing to manage the backend camera infrastructure technologies, including the network systems, fiber optics, servers, data bases, specialized on premise, and cloud software from Genetec.

Should you have any questions, please contact Cason Lee, Manager of Infrastructure Services Bureau, at (562) 570-5553.

cc: Charles Parkin, City Attorney
    Laura Doud, City Auditor
    Tom Modica, Assistant City Manager
    Rebecca Jimenez, Assistant to City Manager
    Craig Beck, Director, Public Works
    John Gross, Director, Financial Management