

Date: July 30, 2021

To: Thomas B. Modica, City Manager 

From: Lea D. Eriksen, Director of Technology and Innovation 

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: **Martin Luther King Jr. Park Network Cameras**

On July 13, 2021, the City Council requested an update on network camera upgrades at the Martin Luther King Jr. Park (“MLK Park”) at 1950 Lemon Avenue.

Through Measure A funding, the Public Works (PW) and Technology and Innovation Departments (TID) are working together to upgrade the camera system at MLK Park to the latest Citywide Genetec network camera standards. Camera and telecommunication technology has significantly improved since the MLK Park cameras were originally installed. The upgraded system will improve the overall reliability, performance, and usefulness of the network cameras in support of public safety. Installation and configuration of the new network cameras, including requisite cabling and electrical system in four facilities at MLK Park, are expected to be completed by October 2021.

In the meantime, several cameras at MLK Park have already been temporarily upgraded or repaired to meet immediate operational needs. TID is working with Parks, Recreation and Marine (PRM) Administration to provide approved PRM staff with access to Genetec network cameras at park facilities to perform periodic reviews of camera video quality. With this access to network cameras at the City’s park facilities, PRM will be better positioned to coordinate with the Long Beach Police Department (LBPD), PW, and TID for future network camera expansions, upgrades, maintenance, and/or repairs.

Since the City Manager provided an [update on the Network Camera Program in April 2017](#), significant improvements have been made to the Citywide Genetec network camera system’s performance and reliability. In 2017, the City supported nearly 500 Genetec network cameras, with 30 percent of these cameras experiencing outages. By comparison, in 2021 the City has more than 1,350 Genetec network cameras in operation and has reduced the outage rate to 7 percent. Regardless of the improvements in technology, outdoor camera equipment requires routine maintenance and repairs. To promote stability of the network camera system, TID works closely with LBPD and other City departments to prioritize camera maintenance, repair, and upgrades as staffing and funding resources become available.

TID continues to modernize obsolete and closed-circuit camera systems as opportunities arise. Recently, Measure A funding has provided several opportunities to upgrade camera systems at multiple park locations, including Houghton Park, McBride Park, Orizaba Park, and Veterans Park. City Departments, including Police, Fire, Public Works, and Health and Human Services,

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have also served as sponsors for network camera upgrade or expansion projects, and new design and construction projects are routinely assessed for network camera needs. Finally, TID has submitted multiple proposed projects for State and federal stimulus funding consideration. TID will support these projects as funding is approved and staffing and resources are made available.

For questions about this update, please contact Cason Lee, Deputy Director of Technology and Innovation, at (562) 570-5553.

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