

**Greenbelt City Council  
Work Session**

**Security Camera Referral**

**October 30, 2017**

**7:30 p.m.**

**Council Room  
Municipal Building**

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**Agenda**

- Introductions
- Presentation
- Council Discussion
- Questions and Answers
- Other

DATE: August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017

To: Mayor and City Council

Cc: Nicole Ard, City Manager  
Mary Johnson, City Liaison  
Captain Thomas Moreland, City of Greenbelt Police Department Liaison

RE: Council Referral to Public Safety Advisory Committee

In response to City Council's referral regarding security cameras, Public Safety Advisory Committee makes the following recommendation. Please refer to the attached PSAC report for detailed information.

Our recommendations are divided into phases based on urgency with Phase I being the recommendations we feel should be dealt with first.

**Phase I** (Page 3 of attached PSAC report)

Replace, repair or reposition the current city camera system as needed including:

- Springhill Lake Rec Center with no pan/tilt
- Springhill Dr for school with no pan/tilt
- And Spellman Overpass

Improve current system by adding longer retention period of at least 3 weeks to insure sufficient time to access images for investigations by the Police Department.

Review current system to improve when adding new/additional cameras for compatibility.

Provide maintenance from an outside source for consistent maintenance and prompt repair when needed.

Allow adjustment to landscaping to accommodate cameras.

**Phase II** (Page 4 of attached PSAC report)

Install additional cameras as follows which is based on violent crime statistics, police department input and requests from the community.

1. Franklin Three Corners
  - a. Cherrywood Lane & Breezewood Drive
  - b. Breezewood Drive & Edmonston Road
  - c. Edmonston Drive & Springhill Drive
  - d. Cherrywood Lane & Metro Drive or Cherrywood Lane & Springhill Lane
2. Mandan Road & Hanover Parkway
3. Ora Glen Drive & Mandan Road
4. Lakeside Drive & Lakecrest Drive

5. Southway & Crescent
6. Schrom Hills Park Entrance at Hanover Parkway
7. Mandan Road & MD 193
8. Mandan Road & Matthew Street

It is recommended that the Police Department work closely with the IT Director in the purchasing and placement of cameras.

The Public Safety Advisory Committee greatly appreciates the opportunity to work on this referral from the City Council. The PSAC report with more details and supporting documents are attached.

Sincerely,



Cynthia A. Comproni  
Chairperson  
Public Safety Advisory Committee

Attached: PSAC report  
Recommendations from Police  
Minutes from Public Forum  
Survey Results  
Suggestion Box List of Responses  
Report from Dale Worley

## Report and Recommendation to City Council on Security Camera Issues

Due to certain concerns raised about the Greenbelt security camera system, at a meeting on April 11, 2016, the city council asked its Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) to "undertake a comprehensive review of existing security cameras in the city; hold public hearings in all areas of the city; determine if additional security cameras are needed; and provide a city-wide camera recommendation to council."

### I. Comprehensive Review of Camera Issues

#### A. Survey of Security Camera System at Greenbelt and Other Jurisdictions

PSAC learned from Dale Worley, director of the city's Information Technology (IT) branch, whose office manages most of the cameras in the city, that at the time of the referral there were 61 security cameras in the city: 17 in the Community Center; five in or around Public Works; three at Roosevelt Center; 12 in and around the Aquatic & Fitness Center; 19 in and around the police station; two outside of Springhill Lake Recreation Center; one outside of Springhill Lake Elementary School; and two at the Spellman Overpass. The only cameras not managed by IT were the Community Center and Public Works cameras which have legacy systems that have been in place for some time.

On May 3, 2016, PSAC toured the security camera setup at the Greenbelt Police Station. The initial information obtained was not encouraging. The police communications specialist reported that at that time two of the Roosevelt Center cameras and both of the Spellman Overpass cameras were not working. There was only haphazard maintenance of the cameras on an as-needed basis. In addition, they were having problems with the new "upgraded" software that had been installed in late October or early November 2015. Specifically, the communications specialist stated that although the clarity of the pictures obtained by the cameras was somewhat better, the new software made it more difficult to zoom in on trouble areas. Exacerbating the problem was that the police personnel who had to deal with the cameras were given only minimal training on using the new software.

Subsequent visits by PSAC to neighboring jurisdictions showed camera systems that appeared to be in somewhat better shape than Greenbelt's. At the Hyattsville station Lieutenant Pervis noted that while some of the cameras are the standard pan/tilt/zoom, which have the ability to pivot up and down and side to side, the more recent acquisitions were cameras which can view a 360 degree radius at any given time and have a very clear picture. Hyattsville has a contract with a private contractor which includes ongoing maintenance as well as training. According to Pervis, technical support comes out within 48 hours of a reported problem with the cameras.

The University of Maryland's police department at College Park (CP) has approximately 400 cameras under its control, according to spokesperson Captain Brian Lintz. Some of the cameras are

monitored by full-time or part-time personnel 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Neither Greenbelt nor Hyattsville has the resources to do this. Although there are four to five different systems at CP, the newest cameras are state of the art 180 or 360 degree cameras which, as in Hyattsville, cover the whole range of vision simultaneously. CP has sufficient personnel to do its own maintenance and training. Lintz also asserted that recent statistics at CP show an almost 100% closure rate for violent crimes, largely due to the camera system surveillance.

On Friday, June 10, 2016, Stan Zirkin met with IT director Worley on behalf of the News Review to discuss the shortcomings of the Greenbelt security cameras uncovered by this investigation. Worley acknowledged that the Greenbelt camera system was flawed in certain respects. He agreed that at that time the Roosevelt Center cameras were not functioning properly but denied, contrary to the police department, that there were problems at the Spellman Overpass. He outlined plans to address the problem at Roosevelt Center, including a new camera system--180 degree cameras to be installed later in June. He later reported that the cameras were installed as planned at Roosevelt Center. He also acknowledged problems with the upgraded software and asserted that IT was looking into possible alternatives. When asked if the system had been tested prior to installation, he said that it had to be installed in order to be tested, that the initial limited tests in the presence of the vendor appeared to be satisfactory and that the "glitches" only appeared later. He also agreed with the police department that lack of training by the vendor added to the problems.

Finally, Worley affirmed that repairs to the cameras were only done on an as-needed basis with vendors and that there was no maintenance service agreement. Worley said that when the cameras were first installed in about 2007 the vendor at the time was asking for a \$30,000 per year maintenance fee, not including replacement parts. The maintenance fee was deemed too expensive. He also noted that in an earlier draft of the FY 2017 budget, the city created a camera system line item to fund ongoing repairs, replacement and maintenance, which essentially recognized the need to fund these services as a regular ongoing activity. However, this item was not included in the final budget, according to Worley.

#### B. Public Hearings

After the preliminary investigation outlined above PSAC, in accordance with the referral, scheduled a series of public hearings to receive input from Greenbelt citizens on the adequacy of and/or the need for additional cameras in the city. The first meeting was held on Wednesday, October 5, 2016 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center; the second meeting was held on Saturday, October 8 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Greenbriar Community Center; and the third and final meeting was held on Saturday, October 15 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Municipal Building. The meetings were presided over by members of PSAC with assistance at two of the meetings By Rick Ranson. The meetings were also attended by police department Deputy Chief Thomas Kemp and IT director Worley.

Information on the history of security cameras was given at each of the meetings and a map of the current locations of security cameras was distributed. Residents who attended the meetings were

told that the purpose of the meetings was to elicit input on concerns relating to the current system; suggested locations for additional cameras; and reasons for each concern or suggestion. Residents were invited to speak at the meetings and to express their views. For those who preferred not to speak at the meetings alternative means of communication were provided, including a suggestion box at the back of the rooms, an email address and the opportunity to express views through survey monkey.

The deadline to submit recommendations was November 18, 2016. A tabulation/summary of the suggestions made by the public is included as Appendix A to this recommendation.

### C. Further Input by IT and Police Department; Crime Statistics

As the public's input was being received it became apparent to the committee that we had to devise a method of winnowing down the vast array of recommendations for additional security cameras made by citizens. The first step was to elicit recommendations from the police department on this issue, based on perceived crime problem areas. On October 27, 2016, the Criminal Investigation Unit submitted its recommendation to Major Kemp as to potential locations for additional security cameras. This recommendation (Appendix B) was later submitted to PSAC by Captain Tom Moreland. Subsequent refinements were submitted by the police department and PSAC then solicited additional input from Worley, who emphasized the need for additional storage space, for a more systematic approach to repair/replacement and for a new server.

For the next several meetings all of the recommendations were discussed and PSAC decided that it needed to examine crime statistics to further refine our recommendation. These were gleaned through crimereports.com and a Greenbelt violent crime map supplied by the police department. (Appendix C).

## II. PSAC's Recommendation to Council

PSAC has concluded that some of the existing cameras have to be repaired and repositioned; that there needs to be a longer retention period of information captured by the cameras; that regularized maintenance from an outside contractor needs to be implemented; and that new security cameras should be considered and phased in as finances permit.

### A. Phase I

The police have concluded that the existing cameras at the Springhill Rec Center and Springhill Drive (school) have not been capturing needed information because of the pan/tilt feature. They recommend that the cameras be repositioned and that the pan/tilt feature be disabled if possible. We agree with that recommendation. In addition, the cameras at the Spellman Overpass seem to be in a frequent state of disrepair. Both IT and the police urge that these cameras be repaired properly before the new school year begins. We agree.

The above considerations raise a more fundamental concern--that at various times the existing cameras are not functioning properly and that it takes an inordinately long amount of time to hire a

contractor to make needed repairs. In the last budget there was a provision which made maintenance of the cameras a line item but it was removed from the final budget. We strongly urge that council reinstate the line item and approve the hiring of an outside contractor to be kept on retainer in order to assure that regular maintenance and/or repair of the cameras occurs. As noted, the Hyattsville police department expressed satisfaction with its contractor. Worley should be directed to make contact with that firm and others with an eye towards entering into a maintenance agreement.

The police department indicated that the current retention period for the images captured on the security cameras outside the police station is 7 to 10 days. They argue that such a short period hampers their investigation of criminal activities because by the time a police officer is freed up to examine the images it has already been deleted. Both IT and the police would like to see a system which maintains images for a minimum of three weeks. We agree.

#### B. Phase II

PSAC has concluded, based on the public's input and IT and police department recommendations, that council should consider appropriating monies for additional security cameras over time. Because so many recommendations were made, PSAC decided to prioritize its recommendations based on where violent crimes in the area occur. In large part they coincide with the public's recommendations. It is our recommendation that security cameras be considered for installation at the following locations:

- i) Franklin Park Three Corners (Cherrywood & Breezewood; Breezewood & Edmonston; and Edmonston & Springhill)
- ii) Cherrywood Lane & Metro Drive or Cherrywood & Springhill Dr.
- iii) Mandan & Hanover
- iv) Ora Glen & Mandan
- v) Lakeside Dr & Lakecrest Dr
- vi) Southway & Crescent
- vii) Schrom Hills & Hanover
- viii) Mandan & 193
- ix) Mandan and Matthew

Note: Due to the extent of violent crimes in Greenbelt West, it is the committee's recommendation to cover the four corners of Franklin Park with the cameras on Cherrywood Lane & Metro Drive. If this does not do the job another location should be considered: Springhill Drive & Cherrywood Lane.

When purchasing the new camera systems PSAC recommends that the 180/360 cameras are the cameras of choice, not the pan/tilt/zoom. In addition the cameras selected need to be functional in low light/nighttime. IT should also make sure that the new cameras are compatible with the existing system and that adequate training is given on the new cameras by the vendor. The police department and IT should collaborate on the purchase and precise placement of any new cameras.





**GREENBELT POLICE  
DEPARTMENT**

550 Crescent Road  
Greenbelt Maryland 20770  
(301) 474-7200

**To: Major Kemp (Interim Chief)**

**From: Sgt. Lee #104** 

**Date: 10/27/16**

**Subject: City Cameras**

Sir,

At the last supervisor meeting you requested input regarding the City cameras. Attached is our input from the Criminal Investigations Unit as prepared by Det. Holden. If you have any questions please feel to speak with us. Thank you.

While reviewing the City of Greenbelt Government webpage, it was observed that the Greenbelt City Council made a referral to the Public Safety Advisory Committee to undertake a comprehensive review of existing security cameras in the City. A survey was attached for people to make comments and present ideas. Within the Greenbelt City Police Departments Criminal Investigative Unit, a discussion occurred regarding the current city cameras. The Criminal Investigative Unit has five Detectives assigned. Three of those Detectives are assigned to the three major parts of the city respectfully. The Criminal Investigative Unit daily investigates various crimes against people and property and because we rely heavily on obtaining evidence that cannot be disputed such as Video Surveillance, we would like to have a voice in this decision and discussion.

From our discussion, it was determined that video obtained in solving some of the major crimes that have occurred within the city, were obtained from various businesses, and other law enforcement outlets and not the city cameras. The video from these other outlets such as the Shell Food Mart on Cherrywood Lane, Beltway Plaza Mall, and Metro Transit Video has been very successful in the prosecution of criminals due to the quality of the video and the location of the video. We regularly discuss concerns and provide input to the managers of these facilities to better serve the community and to obtain vital evidence for prosecution....Members of these locations greatly appreciate our input as it assists them protecting their property and the people they serve.

However, within the city we have major crimes occurring in areas where if video was readily available and of good quality, these crimes may have been prevented or suspects arrested. We as a unit have determined the quality of the video currently being used, the constant panning of cameras, and placement have contributed to cases not being solved and has had us solely rely on witness testimony. Witness testimony is constantly challenged in court for various reasons such as reliability of witness identification, how much time has gone by since the crime occurred and the first court date, witnesses not showing up for court, witnesses who provide useful information but not wanting to get involved and without their testimony, the evidence becomes useless, and witnesses recanting statements made to police at the time of the incident.

Panning cameras from the experience of the Criminal Investigative Unit is not helpful because in general the crime always occurs when facing the opposite direction and by the time it turns around the crime has occurred and the suspects are gone. Cameras being used now need to be able to accommodate the low light and nighttime concerns along with weather changes. Most our violent crimes occur at night. Storage of data for long periods of time is important for investigations. Additionally, the Criminal Investigative Unit should have complete access to all cameras within the city for longer periods of time than what is stored currently. The reason for this is some cases do not get assigned as quickly as other cases because of the priority of the case. For example, a Robbery takes priority over a Burglary, a Critical Missing Child takes priority over a Robbery.

So using these as examples, if a Robbery occurred today, assigned today and then a Critical Missing Child case comes in, we work the Missing Child case first until solved. That means the time needed to solve the Robbery and if video was available may be gone. In addition to this, if a Robbery does occur and new information comes to light for various reasons the

ability to be able to go back and to look at video that was not obtained for various investigative reasons, 2 or 3 months later is important. Squad officers who work the road and respond to many of these calls for service prior to our unit getting involved should have access to all cameras within their patrol cars using their MDT's like how our dispatchers have access to them. This is important for officers to plan search patterns, locate witnesses and or suspects quickly without relying on the public. As officers, we can't always rely on the dispatcher viewing the camera because their primary duties are to take calls, dispatch calls and be the first line of help when a call for service comes in. For these reasons and others not discussed, the following is suggestions and reasons for certain camera placements.

On the East Side of Greenbelt also known to the Criminal Investigative Unit as Three Beat, the areas of concern are in and around the Greenbriar Condos, Glen Oaks Apartments, Eleanor Roosevelt High School, Spellman Over Pass, Hunting Ridge Condominiums, Schrom Hills, and the neighborhoods within these communities. Currently we have cameras on the Spellman Over Pass however the quality of the video, especially at night is not helpful to our investigations. To our knowledge there are no cameras anywhere else in this area except for certain businesses. Those businesses that do have cameras, do not have quality video to use and for the most part are not active. From an investigative perspective, these are the major areas where we respond to calls for service the most and where we get our violent crimes that occur in Greenbelt East. To assist in combating these crimes and assist in identifying suspects related to those crimes, cameras need to be strategically placed to cover those areas.

Its suggested to place cameras in the following areas:

1. Mandan Road and Mathew Street that covers that intersection and the cut through to Chelsea Woods and Gates of Cipriano
2. The corner of Mandan Road and Hanover Parkway to cover vehicle traffic and foot traffic in both directions leading to and from Eleanor Roosevelt High School, in and out of the Greenbriar Condos and Glen Oaks Apartments.
3. Mandan Road and Greenbelt Road to cover vehicle traffic and foot traffic leading from Glen Oaks Apartments, Eleanor Roosevelt High School.
4. Schrom Hills and Hanover Parkway which would cover the Hunting Ridge Condos, the park and cover vehicle and foot traffic along Hanover Parkway.
5. Ora Glenn Drive to cover the entrance to Mandan Road, Hanover Parkway and the area along Ora Glenn Drive.

On the West Side of Greenbelt also known to the Criminal Investigative Unit as Two Beat, the areas of concern are in and around the Franklin Park Apartment Complex, Metro Circle, the Springill Lake Recreation Center, Springhill Lake Elementary School, Ivy Lane, Metro Circle, and around Beltway Plaza Mall. Currently Beltway Plaza has no cameras that cover the area near the cash depot, Chipotle, and Demmy's Pharmacy. It has been discussed, however no action has been taken on this yet. We currently have cameras on the recreation center and near the elementary school, however none of the cameras have resulted in a case closure or identification of a suspect even when the crime occurs on the property for various reasons. One of the big reasons is the constant panning, and the quality during the day and night, along with

the placement. Mack Cali controls the buildings on Ivy Lane, but most of the time, the cameras are not working and only cover inside the building. Individual companies within those buildings have installed their own systems with very good quality to address this problem. Those updates have led to the arrest of several burglary suspects. It has been discussed with Franklin Park management to place cameras within their own property in five key areas, however no action has been taken now.

Its suggested to place cameras in the following areas:

1. The area of Metro Circle which covers the entrance/exit from Metro Drive along with the wood line behind the recreation center. It would also cover both directions of Cherrywood Lane to capture foot traffic and vehicle traffic. Many violent crimes have occurred in this area and have gone unsolved because of it.
2. The entrance ways leading in and out of Franklin Park at Greenbelt Station to include Springhill Drive, Breezewood Drive and Edmonston Road. This again would assist in covering vehicle and foot traffic to the area.
3. Repositioning and replacement of the Springhill Lake Recreation Center cameras to cover the area in a more secure way and better quality cameras to capture both foot traffic and vehicle traffic. We have have violent crimes in this area regularly however the cameras have never been able to assist us in identifying anyone do to the quality and constant panning. The most recent was the shooting that occurred in the parking lot. A properly placed camera would cover this area to include the foot path leading to the 6000 block of Springhill Drive and the foot path that leads to Edmonston Road.
4. Replacing the Springhill Lake Elementary Camera with better quality and positioned where no panning would be needed.
5. The entrance ways leading into Ivy Lane from Cherrywood Lane and Kenilworth Ave, properly placed to cover a wide area to cover not only vehicle traffic, but foot traffic.

In the downtown area/old town also known to the Criminal Investigative Unit as One Beat, cameras are already in use, however again, not properly placed, constant panning and not good quality. While cameras in this area are valued and needed, there are no cameras in major areas where we have responded to for violent or major crimes. In general, we do not respond to the downtown area for these types of crimes. When we are responding, we mostly are going in areas such as Parkway Garden Apartments, Park Crescent Apartments, and University Square Apartments.

It is suggested to place cameras in the following areas:

1. Lakeside Drive and Lakecrest Drive to cover foot and vehicle traffic in University Square.
2. Lakeside Drive and Westway to cover foot and vehicle traffic in University Square.
3. The entrance way to Buddy Attick Lake Park from Lakecrest Drive to cover foot traffic in University Square and the Park
4. Crescent Road facing the entrance to Buddy Attick Lake Park near the Church to cover foot traffic coming to and from the park, the recreation center and tennis courts

5. The area near the recreation center that covers the library, and skate park
6. Westway and Ridge Road to cover vehicle and foot traffic in the area.

We are asking that you take the time to meet with us and allow us to expand on this issue so that you can understand our needs and concerns and we can understand your needs and concerns. As a note these suggestions are only ideas and concerns we have while investigating and protecting this city. Its understood that cost is always an issue, however cost should never out way the cost of someone's life. It's also understood that cameras do not replace the Police from patrolling or investigating crimes in these areas but to be used as an investigative tool and extra set of eyes when we can't be in two places at once. Cameras have been very useful in big cities such as Baltimore, and New York and its understood they have a bigger budget to work with, however considering the times we live in and the direction crime fighting is going, the types of crimes being committed, the lack of witness cooperation and prosecution strategy its worth discussing how we can modernize ourselves to fight crime while working within our budget. Ideas that have been discussed are splitting cost with area businesses and communities, grants and federal funds.

We thank you for taken the time to read our letter and look forward to hearing from you.

## PSAC Camera Program

### Old Town Greenbelt

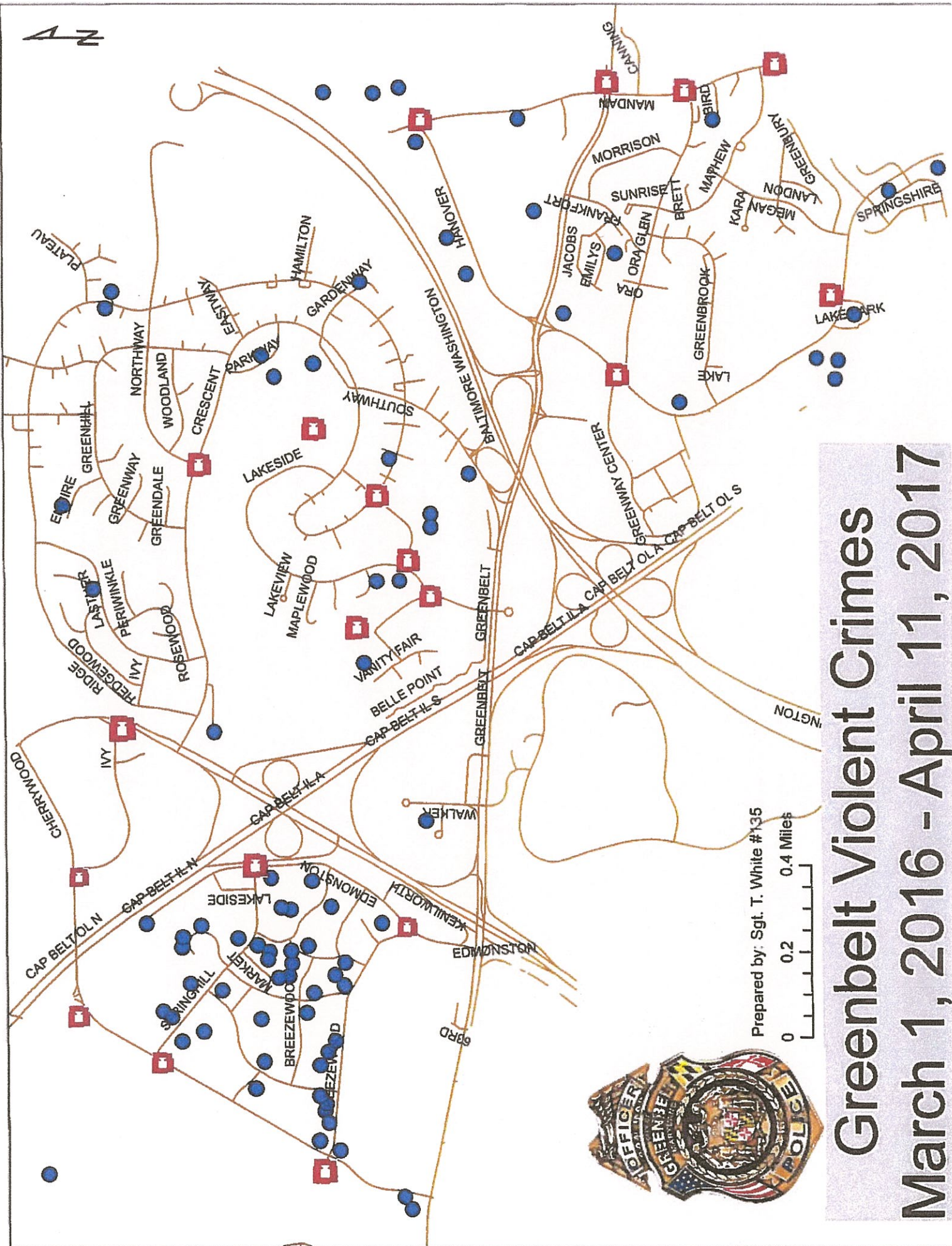
1. Lakeside Dr @ Lakecrest Drive to cover foot traffic and vehicle traffic in University Square  
Crescent @ Southway  
Crescent @ Gardenway
2. Lakeside Dr @ Westway to cover foot and vehicle traffic in Univ Square
3. The area near the recreation center that covers the library and skate park
4. Westway @ Ridge to cover vehicle and foot traffic in the area.
5. The entrance to Buddy Attick Park @ Lakecrest Drive
6. Crescent Rd @ Northway facing towards

### Greenbelt West (Franklin Park)

1. Cherrywood Lane @ Metro Drive
2. The four corners of Franklin Park
3. Repositioning of Springhill Lake Rec camera (no Panning)
4. Replacing Springhill Drive camera (no Panning)
5. Ivy Ln @ Kenilworth and Cherrywood

### Greenbelt East

1. Mandan @ Mathew cover intersection and cut through to Chelsea Woods
2. Mandan @ 193 cover vehicular/foot traffic from Roosevelt and Glen Oaks
3. Ora Glen @ Mandan and Hanover
4. Schrom Hills @ Hanover
5. Mandan @ Hanover



Prepared by: Sgt. T. White #135  
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# Greenbelt Violent Crimes

## March 1, 2016 - April 11, 2017

## Public Safety Advisory Committee Public Forum's Security Camera Referral Summary

The City Council asked the Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) to "undertake a comprehensive review of existing security cameras in the city; hold public hearings in all areas of the city; determine if additional security cameras were needed; and provide a city-wide security recommendation to council."

Public Forums were held on October 5<sup>th</sup> at Springhill Lake Recreation Center; October 8<sup>th</sup> at Greenbriar Community building and on October 15<sup>th</sup> at the Municipal building.

The agenda at the meetings was as follows:

Public Safety Advisory Committee Introductions

Announcement of the Prescription Drug Drop Off Box

Introduction of:

Dale Worley, City of Greenbelt I.T. Director  
Deputy Chief Tom Kemp, City of Greenbelt Police Department  
City Map of Cameras handout  
Suggestion Box or email PSAC at [greenbeltpsac@yahoo.com](mailto:greenbeltpsac@yahoo.com)

Suggestions and feedback on:

Concerns relating to current security cameras  
Need for additional security cameras  
Suggested locations for additional cameras

Information on the history of security cameras in the city was given at each meeting and a map of the current locations of the security cameras was distributed. Presently, there are 61 security cameras in the city; 17 in the Community Center; five in or around Public Works; 3 at Roosevelt Center; 12 in and around the Aquatics and Fitness Center; 19 in and around the police station; 2 outside of Springhill Lake Recreation Center; 1 outside of Springhill Lake Elementary School and 2 at the Spellman overpass. The I.T. Department manages all of the cameras except for the Community Center and Public Works.

The cameras are not monitored on an ongoing basis. Deputy Chief Kemp stated that being able to view incidents on tape after they occur has assisted the police department with investigations. The images on police security cameras are maintained for 180 days; others are stored for 7 to 10 days. The latest installation of cameras occurred at Roosevelt Center where new 180 degrees cameras replaced the pan-tilt-zoom cameras. They also have better resolution than older cameras.



## Recommendations from Residents

Residents who attended the meetings were advised that there was a suggestion box at the back of the room. Cindy Comproni advised residents that there was also an e-mail address at [greenbeltpsac@yahoo.com](mailto:greenbeltpsac@yahoo.com) for those who would like to e-mail suggestions. Suggestions from residents include the following:

- Schrom Hill Park (particularly the parking lot)
- Ballfield by Mandan Road
- Park by Mandan Road and Hanover Parkway (behind the bus stop)
- Park by Mandan Road and Oral Glen
- Playground near Mandan Road and Mandan Terrace
- Multiple areas in Franklin Park (as of yet unspecified)
- The entrance/exit to Greenbelt Station
- The walking path from Greenbelt Station to Cherrywood (Metro Station) once the path is developed
- Locations at Buddy Attick Park (not specified)
- P.W. Recycling Center
- West entrance to the lake behind St. Hugh's
- Main entrance to the animal shelter
- Braden Fields tennis courts
- Back of the Utopia Theater by the Greenbelt Arts Center
- The path of the library from Ridge Road
- The path to the Recreation Center & behind the Center
- The bushes behind the Mother and Child Statue
- The back portion of the library parking lot
- The underpass by the Sunoco station
- Portion of Roosevelt Center where Curves was located
- By the Step Club
- The Spellman Overpass not covered by existing cameras
- By Southway near the BP station
- Various locations along Edmonston Road
- Entrances to Beltway Plaza and Greenway
- Crosswalk by Hanover Parkway and Greenbelt Road (in front of gas station)

Residents were advised that this was a "wish list" and costs considerations need to be factored into the equation. Each camera costs between \$2,000 and \$5,000, not including the costs of transmitting the images to a central location. PSAC and council will also have to research whether the crime statistics warrant the purchase of cameras in suggested areas.

PSAC visited a number of local jurisdictions to review their security camera systems. The City of Hyattsville had a cost sharing program between the government and local businesses. This is something that needs to be explored for Greenbelt. Additionally,

PSAC also posed the question of whether citizens would be willing to absorb its share of costs through tax increases.

Mayor Jordan noted at the Greenbriar meeting, that police cars have license plate readers which can be useful in the apprehension of criminals. Cameras at toll booths and bridges can also be useful as many of those with criminal designs in Greenbelt come from the District or elsewhere and can easily escape via the Beltway or Baltimore Washington Parkway. He also agreed that a public/private partnership with costs-sharing would be useful and that the city can also work with the homeowners associations.

Mayor Pro-Tem Davis stated that even if many cameras are installed, it cannot guarantee security. The public needs to be responsible by locking their cars and making sure items are not left in their car seats. In regards, to costs she stated the city could apply for grants or float a bond issue for approval by the citizens. She noted all parts of Greenbelt need to be treated equitably.

Cindy Comproni stated that all residents and employees will have an opportunity to give their opinions on the security camera referral via Survey Monkey.

IP Address	Do you have concerns relating to current security cameras in the City?	If so, what are your concerns?	Is there a need for additional security cameras in the City?	If so, why?	Please suggest locations for additional cameras in the City.	Would you be willing to pay for new and/or additional security cameras through a tax increase?
100.15.117.59	Yes	Do they really work? If so, are they monitored? Can copies be obtained via Freedom of Information Act?	If so, why?	Safety...for both the public and government. While it may seem "1984 Big Brother," it is needed, both as a deterrent to criminal activity but also as record keeping for accidents and general welfare (lost child, missing persons).	Crescent Road @ Kenilworth Ave; Roosevelt Center near status & Co-op; Greenbelt Road & Hanover Parkway; the recycling area (where trash is dumped instead of recycling materials); Franklin Park (Springhill Lake Elementary School) area.	Yes
100.15.119.220	No		If so, why?	Don't know if so or not. I read the police blotter weekly in the GNR and know there are many incidents in East and West Greenbelt, as well as a few in Center. But I don't know where the cameras are, or where they can be located. Does Franklin Park have their own cameras? I know they have security patrols, as do many HOAs I believe, but to help the City as a whole we do need to do something constructive about the incidents everywhere.	Other than the facilities around Roosevelt Center & the recreation facilities, the Parkway pedestrian bridge, and Roosevelt - I don't know where any are currently located. I know they cannot cover every street nor apartment court....	Yes
100.15.122.62	No		If so, why?	The Sunoco has been broken into a few times and having a camera or two near it might help catch or deter criminals.	The Roosevelt Center, Sunoco, and city buildings.	Yes
100.15.123.230	Yes	There is virtually no security in the City office buildings. It is noticeably absent in the Municipal Building.	If so, why?	City office buildings.	Municipal Buildings	Yes
100.15.127.17	Yes	Not enough of them	If so, why?	Area don't have them	Recreation Centers Graden field	NO
100.15.128.206	Yes	Privacy has left us. In some areas I am ok with it...city wide is invasive.	if so, why?	Maybe. Need more information.	City center. Park entrances, school and parking lots of schools. Walkway to cross 193.	No
107.181.102.130	No		If so, why?	I feel that security cameras near the spellman overpass and in the spring hill lake apartments would be beneficial to help curb crime in these areas.	See above	Yes

12.14.15.194	No					I would say more of "I don't know," since I'm not sure where the current cameras are, how they are monitored, and if additional cameras would be helpful to business owners and/or police. In general, I'm not opposed to new cameras if the people that use the information on them think that there is a need. Re: the tax increase (since there's no place for comments there), I would support a tax increase if it involves a comprehensive security camera plan. Installing one camera here or there isn't helpful. Are funds allocated for maintenance? staff to review footage? Is there a policy in place for retaining/accessing video? If that's all in place and planned out, then I'm in favor of a tax increase. Perhaps but it depends on the locations and their effectiveness.				
141.165.226.156	Yes									I don't know where current cameras are located. I'd want new cameras to be in areas that have had incidents in the past that might have benefited from security footage.
143.85.96.18	Yes									Major road Intersections and public areas.
143.85.96.18	Yes									
162.247.193.93	No									
162.247.193.93	No									

I would say more of "I don't know," since I'm not sure where the current cameras are, how they are monitored, and if additional cameras would be helpful to business owners and/or police. In general, I'm not opposed to new cameras if the people that use the information on them think that there is a need. Re: the tax increase (since there's no place for comments there), I would support a tax increase if it involves a comprehensive security camera plan. Installing one camera here or there isn't helpful. Are funds allocated for maintenance? staff to review footage? Is there a policy in place for retaining/accessing video? If that's all in place and planned out, then I'm in favor of a tax increase. Perhaps but it depends on the locations and their effectiveness.

There has been a recent uptick in crime in the city center. The addition of more cameras might help prevent further increases in crime.

The large tax paying base and its businesses in the city center of Old Greenbelt deserves increased protection from it's municipal government and designated city police force. As policing costs increase, cameras are a great way to monitor multiple areas of the city while not necessarily increasing manpower and/or salaries/benefits. This article I just read last week was particularly disturbing: --Greenbelt News Review October 20 2016 - Police Blotter -- October 10, 4:15 p.m., Crescent Road near Hillside. A man approached two people walking down the path near the underpass, displayed a handgun and announced a robbery. As many as three other young men surrounded the walkers. They fled on foot after getting money from one of the walkers and a purse from the other. Armed robbery in the residential neighborhood, Unacceptable.

I am not sure where they are all located. I would think we would want some at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center and Clubhouse.

Cameras deter crime.

See above  
Greenbelt East (Windsor Green specifically).

My primary concern is that there IS NOT ENOUGH of them, and the ones that we do currently have have not been working properly. (Roosevelt center). As a business owner and tax paying resident, I would hope that the city would put the protection of it's local businesses and citizens as a significant priority and not only fix but increase the local video footprint at the center. The fact that the city put up "no smoking" signs in the center and people continue to smoke there proves that there is no one watching those cameras. Video Cameras do not necessarily prevent crime but can definitely help solve crimes. People should not have privacy "concerns" about security cameras being placed in public areas. If you aren't doing anything wrong or inappropriate in a public space, then you should have nothing at all to hide. As far as a dedicated "tax increase" to pay for them, I would support it if the money were directly tied to any/all security related spending. Last year, I paid \$3093.49 in City Taxes, this seems like a fairly high number already to support a small municipal government and community amenities. I would hope we would examine other areas of the budget to cut prior to just taking the easiest answer, "we'll just raise taxes".

If so, why?

If so, why?

If so, why?

162.247.193.93	No			not sure where they are now, so can't say	Unsure	Yes
162.247.193.93	Yes			city office buildings		No
162.247.193.93	Yes	Yes, more security cameras are needed.	If so, why?	Yes, additional security cameras will improve the safety of residents and property.	At least one security camera is needed at the Recycling Center so that Public Works can enforce illegal dumping from commercial businesses.	Yes
162.247.193.93	Yes	Citizen expectation of cameras everywhere and monitored all the time.	If so, why?	Municipal Building has no security.	Municipal Building	No
162.247.193.93	Yes	There are not enough cameras in the City.	If so, why?	Increase security.	In the Youth Center and Springhill Lake Recreation Center.	Yes
162.247.193.93	Yes	City installs cameras so politicians can take credit for fighting crime. No maintenance contract on cameras translates into cameras that don't work. Nobody tells public that cameras ARE NOT being monitored thus providing the public a false sense of security	If so, why?	Cameras are beneficial "if" done correctly and they work	Somewhere other than Center City. One Greenbelt	Yes
162.247.193.93	Yes	Poor connectivity at the police facility. Increased resolution would be helpful.	If so, why?	Major focus on Roosevelt Center, however, very limited crime occurs at that location. There are other more strategic locations that would provide significant benefit.	Metro Dr. 1 camera for inbound and 1 camera for outbound (the bridge overpass would be the most logical placement). I would also suggest an analysis of crime data and consider placement options based on possible transit routes of subjects committing crimes based on historical data patterns.	
162.247.193.93	Yes	How good is the quality of the recording? How long are they kept?	If so, why?	There are no cameras in the Municipal building. There aren't sufficient at GAFC covering all areas of the facility. Some cameras only show part of a room.	Municipal building. GAFC needs additional cameras to adequately cover the facility. All the Rec Centers need better cameras.	No
162.247.193.93	Yes	There is a lack of security in City office buildings, especially the Municipal building. Lack of them on certain City buildings.	If so, why?	City office buildings, especially Municipal building need security. Safety	All City buildings and recreation centers. The Greenbelt Youth Center	Yes
162.247.193.93	Yes	Safety to residents who reside in Greenbriar Condominiums.	If so, why?	Big apartment or condominium complexes breed crime and could benefit from preventive measures such as security cameras.	Greenbriar condominiums, Glen Oaks apartments.	Yes
172.56.2.222	Yes	Landscaping blocks some cameras & I doubt anyone watches the camera feed until perhaps after an incident occurs.	If so, why?	Near New Deal & parking area since they do late night activities.	Near New Deal Cafe, close to Metro Drive	No
174.205.19.69	Yes	They never seem to work and are poor quality.	If so, why?	Other areas besides old town need camera coverage.		Yes

205.68	JUL.193	No				<p>The new Greenbelt Station Development had no planning requirements for security cameras. A couple strategically placed cameras in the development may deter criminals, and help to catch and prosecute those who commit crimes there.</p> <p>Prevent crime</p> <p>place them in high crime areas</p> <p>There is always a need for more security cameras due to the current state of security in town.</p> <p>For safety reasons.</p> <p>The obvious answer is for more security for everyone which makes either individuals or groups of citizens walking about to enjoy all that the City has to offer.</p> <p>We need more complete coverage</p> <p>At the entrances if Greenspring on Megan Lane. Many times cars do not even stop for the stops signs. Someone in the neighborhood is going to be run over.</p> <p>Crimes are rampant and increasing.</p>	<p>I hope that PSAC considers placement of security cameras along the future Stream Valley trail in the Greenbelt Station Development as a possible option for enhancing the security of pedestrians walking through the wooded area between Cherrywood Lane and Stream Bank Lane. Also, a camera placed at or near the only ingress point to the Greenbelt Station Development by car off of Route 193 should be considered. A camera capable of capturing license plates of cars entering and exiting the development would be ideal.</p>	Yes
207.235.62.457		Yes	Would like to see more in dark areas and around HS	If so, why?			<p>Around the high schools, dark areas at night</p>	Yes
208.54.35.134		Yes	they don't work properly, do not capture high crime areas.	If so, why?			<p>4 corners of Springhill lake. by metro drive</p>	Yes
47.200.89.30		No		If so, why?			<p>On Springshire way, and surrounding streets.</p>	No
50.253.47.169		Yes	I live in Greensprings II and my vehicle and several other vehicle through out the neighborhood where broken into. I live along with my daughter and have a difficult time sleeping at night	If so, why?			<p>if there are presently none in the underpasses -- there certainly should be for obvious reasons. There also so be better lighting.</p>	Yes
64.26.97.60		Yes	They need to take in the views of all store fronts and the entire parking area.	If so, why?			Yes	
66.87.80.106		Yes	There should be more	If so, why?			Yes	
66.87.80.98		No		If so, why?			<p>Greensprings</p> <p>Mandan Rd Public parks</p>	Yes
68.33.93.228		No		If so, why?				Yes
73.128.54.150		Yes	Additional security cameras, if well placed and well advertised, would help to reduce the incidence of crime in our neighborhood. In the same way that our home alarms have helped to reduce breakins and burglaries.	If so, why?			<p>For the Greenspring development, cameras at the intersection of Hanover Parkway and Megan Lane and at the intersection of Megan Lane and Craddock Road would help greatly to identify vehicular traffic entering or leaving. To a lesser extent, these two cameras would also be useful for identifying pedestrians entering or leaving the development.</p>	Yes
73.163.232.199		Yes	There are not enough in the area.	If so, why?			<p>Near Ridge and the path from library up to ridge. That part is very dark</p>	Yes
73.213.52.249		Yes	Yes. There has in recent years been a number of crimes and assaults committed against merchants and citizens in or near the Center.	If so, why?			<p>Underpasses, Gardenway bridge, general view of the center</p>	Yes
73.213.53.230		Yes	I like warnings before tickets taking money out of our pockets. Sometimes you oversleep and need to speed to make up time.	If so, why?			<p>Simply keep us safe. I have no suggestions</p>	No

73.213.54.67	No		If so, why?	I feel there is a need for additional security cameras in the area of Schrom Hills Park and the nearby condominiums due to trespassers and gang activity.	Schrom Hills Park and Hanover Parkway along with the entrances to the nearby condominiums.	No
75.118.44.209	Yes	Blindspot near Joe's so people hang out there to avoid cameras. Sounds like major residential roads into Greenbelt could use them, especially Westway, Lakeside, etc. Not sure any existing ones work or are really monitored.	If so, why?	See more people wandering around inner walkways and hanging around neighborhoods who look out of place over the last several years.	Greenbelt Station Westway By Sunoco	Yes
76.100.109.55	No	I am not up-to-date with this issue.	If so, why?	I am not up-to-date with this issue.	I am not up-to-date with this issue, sorry.	No
96.255.83.69	Yes	They need to be in and out of all city facilities	If so, why?	Safety	YC (Internal and external); SHURC (Internal and external); skatepark; BAP trail; SHP alleyway, parking lot, outside pavilion strrs	Yes
96.88.224.18	Yes		If so, why?	With crimes happening in the daylight of a neighborhood that I consider very safe I am worried that the same could happen to my wife and I while we walk our 2 year old. I don't want to have to look over my shoulder at everyone passing, but without cameras I have to scan every scene just in case something goes down.		Yes
96.91.195.170	Yes	That they don't adequately cover all angles of the Roosevelt Center businesses.	If so, why?	Maybe at the underpasses? the one I use on the way to work (off of Hillside) often smells of urine. (and not from a dog.)	One more in Roosevelt Center. And the underpasses. Animal shelter	Yes
98.218.98.111	No		If so, why?	Perhaps having a camera there would dissuade that and other unpleasant behavior, like graffiti.		Yes
100.15.115.173	No		No	Entire city should be monitored		No
100.15.123.35	No		No			No
100.15.131.228	Yes	Greenbelt should not be a surveillance society.	No		None, and remove all existing cameras	No
100.15.132.106	No		No			Yes
100.15.134.74	No		No			No
100.15.138.35	Yes	What is their purpose: to catch criminals/law breaking or to be used as evidence? How are cameras managed/viewed/seen? Is there dedicated staff viewing them 24/7? What is the taxpayer cost of viewer's salary, maintenance/PM of said cameras/equipment? Poor quality, grainy. I can't answer the following questions; I don't have enough info. Thanks for the survey, though.	No			No
107.77.202.13	Yes	I Always worry that they are being used to raise revenue rather than to promote safety and therefore may not be fair. Also there is no way to check the devices accuracy.	No			No
162.247.193.93	No		No			No
162.247.193.93	No		No			No
162.247.193.93	No		No			No





162.247.193.93

Yes

Youth Center, Springhill Lake Recreation Center and City Offices.

Did to ensure that these are all working properly and reviewed regularly. The incident with the armed robbery should have been captured on security cameras

173.8.17.1

Yes

Any where there is foot traffic and potential for a secluded hiding space. Additionally, we need increased lighting during along all inner walkways. We also need to have more foot patrol in the evening and on inner walkways.

Yes

205.156.36.11

No

Yes

Any public park, public assembly areas, or around businesses. Don't give creeps or criminals a dark corner to hide in. Expose them.

Yes

208.76.235.2

No

Yes

Yes

50.249.48.185

Yes

Yes

residential part of city center, crescent road

Yes

69.243.85.235

No

Yes

Yes

There are not enough of them.

There needs to be more of them. Not just around city infrastructure, but around public spaces, walkways, and areas of commerce.

69.243.85.235

Yes

Yes

Yes

70.108.254.39

Yes

Yes

Yes

71.178.88.94

Yes

Yes

Yes

71.178.88.94

Yes

Yes

Yes

Schrom Hills Park  
On Centerway.  
On Centerway.

I think the current ones are fine. But, there are areas we need more coverage. There are areas in the city that are secluded such as Northway fields or Schrom Hills Park that need coverage. There are other areas that, particularly after dark, can have people hanging around like Buddy Attick Lake parking area. I've seen drug use by teens at the skate park particularly at night.

73.133.39.16

Yes

Yes

73.191.56.84

Yes

Yes

1. Parking lot behind New Deal 2. COOP parking lot including the area directly behind the theatre & by the barber 3. Parking area by Arts Center 4. Skate Park area and Rec Center parking lot that leads down to the tennis courts. 5. Schrom Hills Park 6. Buddy Attick Lake parking lot 7. Recycling area at Buddy Attick Lake 8. Gardenway side of Spellman Overpass particularly to see playground and approach area to bridge. 9. Northway playing fields

No

**List of responses in the Suggestion Box for Cameras as of October 24, 2016:**

"We need to have cameras at the Greenbelt Lake. I have found many gross things at the Lake. I would Also like a ride along." Cassandra Hetzel

Please consider the feasibility/effectiveness of placing cameras/call boxes along the future Stream Valley Trail ingress path from Cherrywood into the Greenbelt Station Development in Greenbelt west. It may be more effective to utilize a neighborhood watch. However, the path cross through the wooded area between Cherrywood and the development, giving criminals cover to hide. Patty Walters, Greenbelt Station Resident.

Over the last year, the tennis courts at Braden Field have been vandalized at least twice. Chairs were broken and the nets were damaged. The police department claims they know who the miscreants are but can't do anything because of the lack of witnesses and security cameras.

Camera Suggestion – Recycling Center by the Lake.

West Entrance to Lake behind St Hughs to see the bridge – people dump stuff here.  
Animal Shelter main entrance to be able to see license plates of people dumping animals.  
Behind Rec Center and down path to Rec Center. Parking Enforcement Officer.

<u>Privacy</u>	Not	<u>Security</u>
Security		Privacy

**OTHER Comments:**

Training City Employee working with public de-escalation techniques (i.e. angry clients @ GAC @ summer policy (Admission))

12 Court Ridge needs lights. Path to library from Ridge Road.

Serious speeding issues on Ridge around Westway. East 50-60 mph ?? Run stops and don't stop for pedestrians in crosswalks. GHI member lives in 12 Court.

# City of Greenbelt

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Date: 4/19/16  
To: Mary Johnson  
From: Dale Worley  
Re: Public Safety Advisory Committee Inquiry

Mary, in response to the inquiry from the Public Safety Advisory Committee, this is a brief review of the City's cameras and locations.

The City currently maintains a total of 60 cameras.

- 17 in the Community Center
- 5 in and around Public Works
- 3 at Roosevelt Center
- 12 in and around the Aquatic and Fitness Center
- 19 in and around the Police station
- 2 outside of Springhill Lake Rec
- 1 outside of Springhill Lake Elementary
- 2 at the Spellman Overpass

IT manages all except the Community Center and Public Works. Those locations are maintaining legacy systems that have been in place for some time.

The Community Center keeps video for 40 days.

Public Works keeps video for 20 days.

Police video is stored for 180 days.

All other video is stored for approximately 10-14 days. These other cameras record based on motion in the frame, thus the amount of recorded time can have an effect on how much video is stored. If there is an incident in any of these locations, video can be pulled and kept indefinitely.

The 3 Roosevelt Center cameras are currently not working due to a problem with the wireless technology used to transmit the video streams back to the Municipal Building. This problem began in January 2016. IT is actively working with our vendor on a plan to reduce or eliminate our dependence on that wireless technology. We expect a solution to be implemented in May..

These camera systems initially grew independently as departments had available budget to fund the systems. About 9 years ago when the Center cameras were put in place, we began to consolidate systems under IT and the back end computer system put in place with the Center cameras. The Community Center and Public Works systems were not consolidated at that time due to storage space limitations.

Beginning with the FY 2017 budget, the City has created a Camera System line item to fund ongoing repairs, replacements and maintenance. Prior to that, repairs were done on an as needed basis. The creation of a budget line item recognizes the need to fund repairs, replacements, and maintenance of these systems as a regular ongoing activity.



## **GREENBELT EAST ADVISORY COALITION INC (GEAC)**

Hunting Ridge • Greenbriar • Windsor Green • Greenbriar • Greenbrook Estates • Greenbrook Village • Greenwood Village •  
Greenspring I • Greenspring II • Greenbelt Lake Village • Greenbelt Lake Village Condo  
P.O. BOX 2042 GREENBELT, MD 20768-2041

Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition, Inc.  
P.O. Box 2042  
Greenbelt, MD 20768-2042

July 2 2016

Greenbelt Public Safety Advisory Committee,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition (GEAC) which represents over 3000 households in the city of Greenbelt. We recently learned that you will be developing a city-wide security camera plan and presenting recommendations to the Greenbelt City Council. For some time GEAC has believed that the city would benefit from expanding the use of security cameras, to include the Schrom Hills Park area as well as other areas in Greenbelt east. We are confident that residents throughout the city would be interested in learning more about the use of security cameras in Greenbelt and ultimately supporting recommendations on expanding the program city wide.

GEAC is interested in assisting you, in communicating with city residents to ensure city council has ample information to make an informed decision concerning the future of camera monitoring in Greenbelt. If you have already established your schedule for publishing information, collecting data, and reporting to the council, please let us know your timetable as well as how GEAC can help you. If you are still in the early stages of planning, we would be happy to work with you as needed, particularly in coordinating community meetings for exchanging information with residents on the topic of camera monitoring.

For GEAC representatives to effectively communicate with residents about camera monitoring, it would be most helpful to have information on the current program. How long Greenbelt has used camera monitoring, where cameras are currently located, the life expectancy of the current equipment, the operating costs associated with camera monitoring, as well as information on how the existing camera monitoring has benefited the citizens of Greenbelt.

In closing I want to thank you for the time and energy you dedicate to the safety and well-being of Greenbelt. The Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition will be waiting to hear from you.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rohanie Bacchus  
GEAC Chair

cc: Executive Board - Austin Henry, Thomas J. Crandall, Charlene MacAdams and Judith Thompson

*Executive Board Officers: Chairperson - Rohanie Bacchus • First Vice Chairperson - Austin Henry •  
Second Vice Chairperson - Thomas J Crandall • Treasurer - Charlene MacAdams • Secretary - Judith  
Thompson*