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October 1, 2024

BPC #24-226

The Honorable Public Safety Committee
City of Los Angeles
c/o City Clerk's Office
City Hall, Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Honorable Members:

RE: PRIORITIZING DIVISIONS FOR REAL TIME CRIME CENTERS AND COORDINATION
WITH CITY DEPARTMENTS, CITY COUNCIL FILE NO. 24-0238.

At the regular meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners held Tuesday, September 24, 2024 the Board APPROVED the Department's report relative to the above matter.

Respectfully,

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rebecca Munoz".

REBECCA MUNOZ
Commission Executive Assistant

Attachment

c: Chief of Police

INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

Reviewed: *24-224*
[Signature]
Executive Director 9/11/24
Date

September 11, 2024
17.4

TO: The Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

FROM: Chief of Police

SUBJECT: LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE TO LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE (CITY COUNCIL FILE NO. 24-0238)

RECOMMENDED ACTION

1. That the Board of Police Commissioners (BOPC) REVIEW and APPROVE the Los Angeles Police Department's (LAPD) response to the Public Safety Committee.
2. That the BOPC TRANSMIT to the Public Safety Committee the attached response.

DISCUSSION

On April 19, 2024, the Los Angeles City Council adopted a Public Safety Committee Report (CF File 24-0238 regarding Real Time Crime Centers. The City Council directed the LAPD to:

- Report on how Los Angeles' 18 other police divisions will be selected and prioritized for Real Time Crime Centers following their implementation in Hollywood Division, Central Division, and Van Nuys Division; and,
- Coordinate with the Bureau of Street Lighting, Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT), Department of General Services and report back to the Council on the efforts to integrate existing camera networks into LAPD's Real Time Crime Centers.

A Project Report and Fact Sheet were prepared in response to the City Council motion. If you have any questions, please contact Captain Anthony Espinoza, Innovation Management Division, at (213) 486-5228.

Respectfully,



DOMINIC H. CHOI
Chief of Police

**BOARD OF
POLICE COMMISSIONERS**
Approved *September 24, 2024*
Secretary *Rebecca Munoz*

Attachments

PROJECT REPORT

Prioritizing Divisions for Real-Time Crime Centers and Coordination with City Departments Methods and Recommendations

Background

In April 2024, the Los Angeles City Council (Council File No. 24-0238) requested a report related to the implementation of real-time crime centers:

The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) was directed to report on how Los Angeles' 18 other police divisions will be selected and prioritized for Real-Time Centers following their implementation in Hollywood Division, Central Division, and Van Nuys Division.

Introduction

In October 2023, the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) received a grant from the California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) to assist in its efforts to thwart organized retail theft, motor vehicle theft, and cargo theft. Funds will be used for overtime and equipment for task forces in the Commercial Crimes Division, an evaluation of the project by Justice & Security Strategies, Inc. (JSS), and to establish real-time crime centers in LAPD's 21 patrol divisions.

LAPD RealTime is the name of the program that involves real-time crime centers (RTCCs) at the area stations. LAPD RealTime is supported by the Innovation Management Division (IMD) of the Information Technology Bureau (ITB). The purpose of LAPD RealTime is to produce actionable information from a variety of technologies and databases that will assist officers and investigators to detect, prevent, mitigate, and investigate organized retail theft, motor vehicle theft, and cargo theft in the city.

Real-time crime centers are rooms that bring together staff and a variety of technologies to support policing activities. This support includes both near-real-time assistance to field operations and analytic support to commanders' strategic decision-making. They serve as command-and-control centers for staff to gain awareness of what is happening in their areas and decide on responses. Their objectives are to improve their abilities to reduce crime, hold offenders accountable, improve officer safety, and reduce response times.

LAPD RealTime will be equipped with software and hardware solutions that will integrate data from automated license plate readers (ALPRs) and video technology from businesses and public locations.

In December 2023, the Central Area was identified as the sole pilot site for the initial Real-Time Crime Center (RTCC) implementation. This selection was based on community input and crime data. However, the launch of the RTCC is contingent upon the completion and award of the Request for Proposal (RFP) process, which is currently underway. The pilot will proceed only after the RFP process has been finalized.

Selection and Prioritization of Real-time Crime Centers

The Public Safety Committee requested a report on how the Department will select and prioritize the next 18 Divisions for real-time crime centers. The Department will base its decisions on the following criteria.

1. Community Input

To determine the receptivity of the community to LAPD RealTime the Department will conduct surveys of businesses and individuals through two mechanisms, the Community Policing Advisory Boards (CPAB) and Blockwise. The surveys will gauge the level of interest and needs of the community regarding LAPD's response to property crimes and business-related crimes. Additionally, the independent evaluator of the grant, Justice & Security Strategies, Inc. (JSS),¹ will survey and interview council members to obtain their perspectives on the need for real-time crime centers in their districts.

Survey of Community Policing Advisory Board members

Each LAPD division convenes a Community Policing Advisory Board (CPAB) routinely. Members of the board include business owners and residents of the area. To capture the attitudes of CPAB regarding property crime and real-time crime centers a 10-item survey will be emailed to each member of CPAB. JSS will administer the survey and analyze the results.

Public sentiment data from ZenCity/Blockwise (February 1 to May 31, 2024)

ZenCity is a firm that measures public sentiment across the city of Los Angeles. Through its Blockwise program, ZenCity measures key aspects of resident perceptions, including city residents' level of satisfaction with police, safety measures, and types of crime problems in their neighborhoods. These survey questions are delivered and collected through digital advertising platforms. Since February 2024, Blockwise has collected ~4,000 survey responses per month across the city. IMD and JSS staff will work with Blockwise to analyze the data and determine whether and how the community views property crime and business-related crime in their areas.

City Council Feedback

City Council members, who serve as representatives of their constituents, will be asked to provide their opinions regarding real-time crime centers and the need for one in their districts. A questionnaire and follow-up interview with council members will measure their perspectives. The survey and interviews will be conducted by JSS staff.

¹ The BSCC grant from the state of California requires an independent evaluator to produce an evaluation plan and to write a final report on all activities of the project. Justice & Security Strategies, Inc. (JSS) has served as the research partner for LAPD since 2009 and serves as the evaluator of the grant.

2. Data Analysis

Property crime and business-related crimes will be analyzed for each division from January 1, 2021, to March 31, 2024. Monthly statistics (standardized by population) will provide equitable comparisons across divisions. JSS and Compstat Division will conduct the analyses

3. Station Readiness

The readiness of Division stations is an important consideration for prioritization and selection. Real-time crime centers require personnel, equipment, and technology. Each station has different challenges in terms of internet connectivity, physical placement of the center itself, hardware and software needs, and personnel to operate the center. An assessment of these three components is needed to determine the readiness the station. IMD staff and JSS will conduct the assessments.

Prioritization and Selection

When all the information is collected, the data will be analyzed and collated by the research team at JSS. For the components described above, i.e., community input, data analysis, and station readiness, researchers will rank-order the divisions. A matrix will be constructed that displays the divisions, the components, and the rank number. A total score for each division will be tabulated.

Results will be provided to the Chief of Police who will make the final decision about the roll out of the real-time crime centers.

FACT SHEET

Integrating Existing Public Camera Networks into the Los Angeles Police Department's Real Time Crime Centers

PURPOSE

The purpose of this fact sheet is to provide an update on the findings after coordinating with Bureau of Street Lighting, Los Angeles Department of Transportation, and Department of General Services.

BACKGROUND

On April 19, 2024, the City Council directed the LAPD to coordinate with the Bureau of Street Lighting, Los Angeles Department of Transportation, Department of General Services and report back to the Council on the efforts to integrate existing camera networks into LAPD's Real Time Crime Centers, (LAPD Real Time).

FINDINGS

Throughout the month of May, LAPD – Innovation Management Division met with representatives of the Bureau of Street Lighting (BSL), Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT), and Department General Services Division.

-Bureau of Street Lighting

The Bureau of Street Lighting estimates they have 50 cameras in the field and 75 in a warehouse awaiting deployment. BSL is willing to integrate its existing cameras with LAPD's RTCC. The initial evaluation of the BSL camera system indicates that it would be compatible using integration software. LAPD's selected RTCC vendor will assume technical responsibility for the integration with LAPD's Innovation Management Division's oversight. BSL is willing to take input from LAPD for placement of future installs to assist with crime and quality of life concerns. Additionally, BSL operates two Automated License Plate Recognition Cameras, (ALPR). BSL is willing to share its ALPR data with the RTCCs through FLOCK software and repository.

-Los Angeles Department of Transportation

The Department of Transportation has hundreds of cameras throughout the City of Los Angeles. Currently, all the cameras are analog and are hardwired through thousands of miles of underground conduit. It is estimated that approximately 40% of their cameras are not in working order, mostly due to copper theft. LAPD Geographic Divisions that wish to integrate into DOT's video system would have to physically run wire to a junction point, depending on what camera they would want access to. Currently, the Emergency Operations Center, (EOC), has access via 8 channels to select DOT cameras. That access is possible through underground wiring routed from City Hall to the EOC. It should be noted that DOT does not record any video footage.

DOT is exploring upgrading their outdated system to avoid failure due to copper theft. If their system is updated, they are willing to share their camera feed with LAPD with an MOU in place.

FACT SHEET

Integrating Existing Public Camera Networks into the Los Angeles Police Department's Real Time Crime Centers

- Department of General Services

Department of General Services does not own any cameras that capture video in public areas. They do have a camera system linked to a security alarm within their fleet/storage yard located in the East Los Angeles area. GSD is willing to share that incident-driven feed when the cameras are triggered by the alarm system.

CONCLUSION

After meeting with Bureau of Street Lighting, Los Angeles Department of Transportation, General Services Division it was determined that all the entities are willing to integrate with the LAPD's RTCC.

Integrating with BSL's current and future system will move forward as the RTCC program develops. Future steps will include developing a partnership and MOU between BSL and LAPD. The RTCC vendor selected by the LAPD will be tasked with integrating BSL's feeds into the RTCC.

Integrating with DOT's current system is not recommended due to the current analog outdated system in place and the potential of having 40% video feed outage. Running miles of conduit to select cameras or hubs to a system that is destined to be overhauled to a wireless system is counterproductive. The vision of the LAPD is that as DOT upgrades their system, the LAPD RTCC integration will take place simultaneously with an MOU in place.

Integrating with GSD's current system is feasible but will be incident driven giving video access to a private storage/fleet yard.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to integrating existing public camera networks into the Los Angeles Police Department's (LAPD) Real Time Crime Centers.

Recommendations for Council action pursuant to Motion (Park – Lee):

1. INSTRUCT the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) to report on how Los Angeles' 18 other police divisions will be selected and prioritized for Real Time Centers following their implementation in Hollywood Division, Central Division and Van Nuys Division.
2. INSTRUCT the LAPD, in coordination with the Bureau of Street Lighting, Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT), and Department of General Services, to report on efforts to integrate existing public camera networks into LAPD's Real Time Crime Centers.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On April 9, 2024, your Committee considered a Motion (Park - Lee) relative to integrating existing public camera networks into the LAPD's Real Time Crime Centers. According to the Motion, in 2023, the City saw an increase in property crime and retail theft, including 123 flash mob robberies. In Council District 11, recent examples include 50 car burglaries that took place over just one weekend at the start of the year as well as numerous commercial burglaries across the Westside that have left local businesses devastated.

Making matters worse, historically low staffing levels have hindered the LAPD's ability to respond quickly and efficiently to crime. As a result, there is an acute need to explore new measures, like the use of technology, to mitigate these impacts and improve the department's response to crime. One such tool is the use of Real Time Crime Centers. Currently being utilized by more than 300 law enforcement agencies across the country, including cities like New York and Detroit. Real Time Crime Centers integrate and leverage existing video technology to prevent and interrupt crime as it happens. Examples of video technology include Automated License Plate Readers (ALPR), cameras found at private businesses and residences, as well as existing LADOT cameras installed at large intersections.

In Beverly Hills, which launched its Real Time Watch Center in 2022, automated license plate readers helped authorities capture an individual suspected of murdering three unhoused individuals and a Los Angeles County government employee in December

2023. Further, in each instance, cities have prioritized good governance and accountability to enable the effective use of this technology.

Although slow to adopt a similar program, at a December 12, 2023 Los Angeles Police Commission meeting, the LAPD shared that its goal is to launch a Real Time Crime Center in each of LAPD's 21 divisions with initial roll-out occurring in 2024 at Hollywood Division, Wilshire Division and Van Nuys Division. While other divisions like West Los Angeles saw larger increases in retail theft and crime, these locations were selected as result of community feedback and support, in consultation with the local council office. As Los Angeles prepares to accept \$15 million in state funding for the purchase of ALPRs and creation of an integrated technology platform (Council File No. 24-0018), it is important to understand what methodology will be utilized to implement Real Time Crime Centers at Los Angeles' other 18 police divisions, inclusive of data and community feedback. After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the Motion. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Public Safety Committee

| COUNCILMEMBER | VOTE |
|----------------------|-------------|
| RODRIGUEZ: | ABSENT |
| LEE: | YES |
| McOSKER: | YES |
| PARK: | YES |
| SOTO-MARTINEZ: | YES |

ARL
4/9/24

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-