

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Administrative Code - Department of Elections Amended Surveillance Technology Policy]

Ordinance approving the amended Surveillance Technology Policy for the Department of Election's continued use of security cameras and making required findings in support of said approvals.

Background Information

Administrative Code Chapter 19B (Chapter 19B) regulates City Departments' acquisition and use of Surveillance Technology. The Department of Elections (Elections) seeks to amend its Surveillance Technology Policy for Use of Indoor Security Cameras (Amended Surveillance Technology Policy).

Under the existing ordinance, Elections uses the Indoor Security Cameras to: (1) conduct live monitoring of voting center lines; (2) conduct live monitoring of ballot processing and election-related operations; (3) share live streaming footage of the Department ballot processing and election-related operations with the public to promote transparency into elections operations, and (4) review camera footage in the event of an incident. The existing ordinance lists a particular vendor, Google, to provide security cameras and cloud-based platform needed for retention.

The Amended Surveillance Technology Policy allows Elections: (1) the flexibility to use other vendors that offer the same services and are approved by the City, (2) reduces the retention period from 10 days to four days, and (3) use any cloud-based platform to store the recorded footage.

The Amended Surveillance Technology Policy is detailed in Section 2 of the proposed ordinance. The Surveillance Technology Policy is available in Board File No. _____.