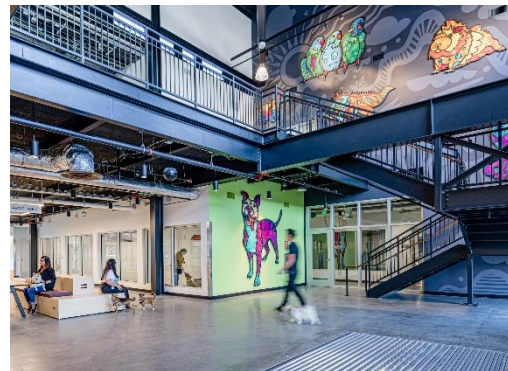


May 21, 2026

Surveillance Technology Policies: Drones and Illegal Dumping Camera System

Esther Lee
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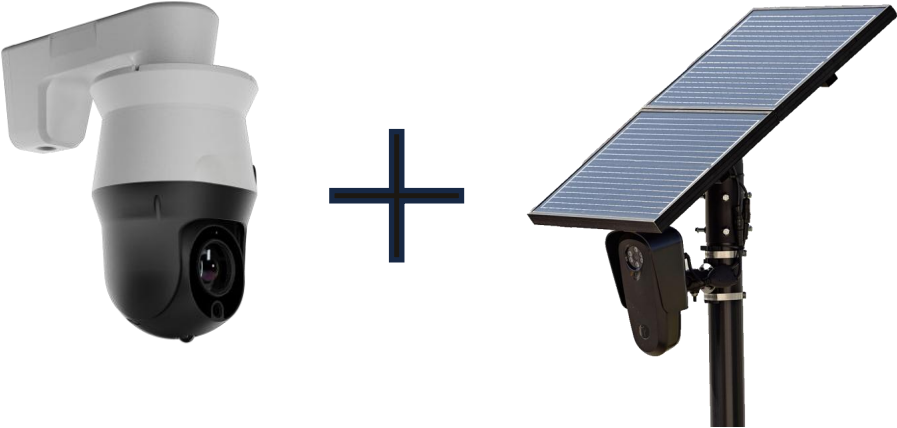
San Francisco Public Works Surveillance Technology Policies



Drones

The Illegal Dumping Camera System

Automated License Plate Reader
+
video camera



Surveillance Technology Policy: Drones

Current Authorized Uses:

1. Disaster preparedness and response
2. Environmental monitoring and documentation
3. Inspection and survey of properties and assets
4. Project inspection and documentation
5. Surveying and mapping data collection



Proposed additional uses:

1. Identify illegal dumping refuse for garbage collection operations
2. Public education and promotion of Public Works operations

Surveillance Technology Policy: Drones



Photo: Filbert Street hillside inspection, 2019



Surveillance Technology Policy: Illegal Dumping Camera System



video camera

Amendments remove outdated vendor named on policy title and clarifies business justification for a comprehensive illegal dumping camera technology system to capture license plates of vehicles involved in suspected illegal dumping and illegal dumping activity as evidence for enforcement.

Public Works Illegal Dumping Camera System consists of two cameras

1. capture video evidence of illegal dumping activity
2. capture license plate of vehicle used by violators



ALPR camera

Illegal Dumping Camera System Operational Objectives



video camera

Current authorized use aims to:

1. Discourage illegal dumping on City streets

Proposed amendments also aim to:

2. Identify and cite illegal dumping violators
3. Public education and promotion of Public Works operations



ALPR camera

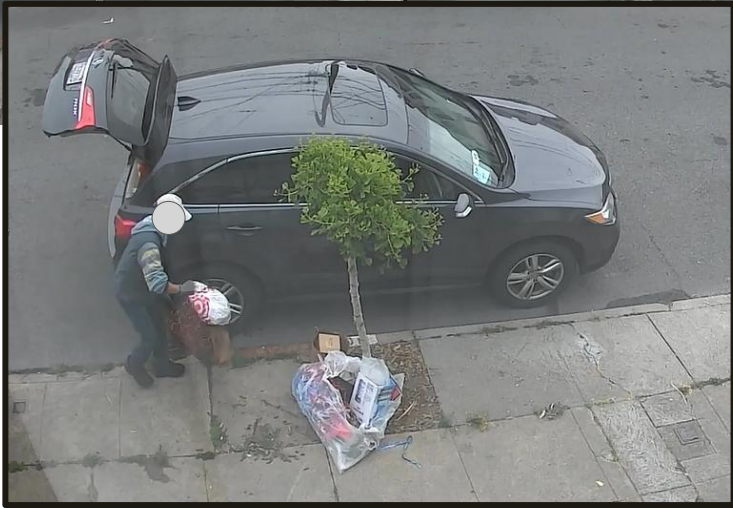
Surveillance Technology Policy: Dual Camera System

Illegal Dumping Camera System

Dual Camera System will combine Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) clips with video footage



Sample clip from ALPR system



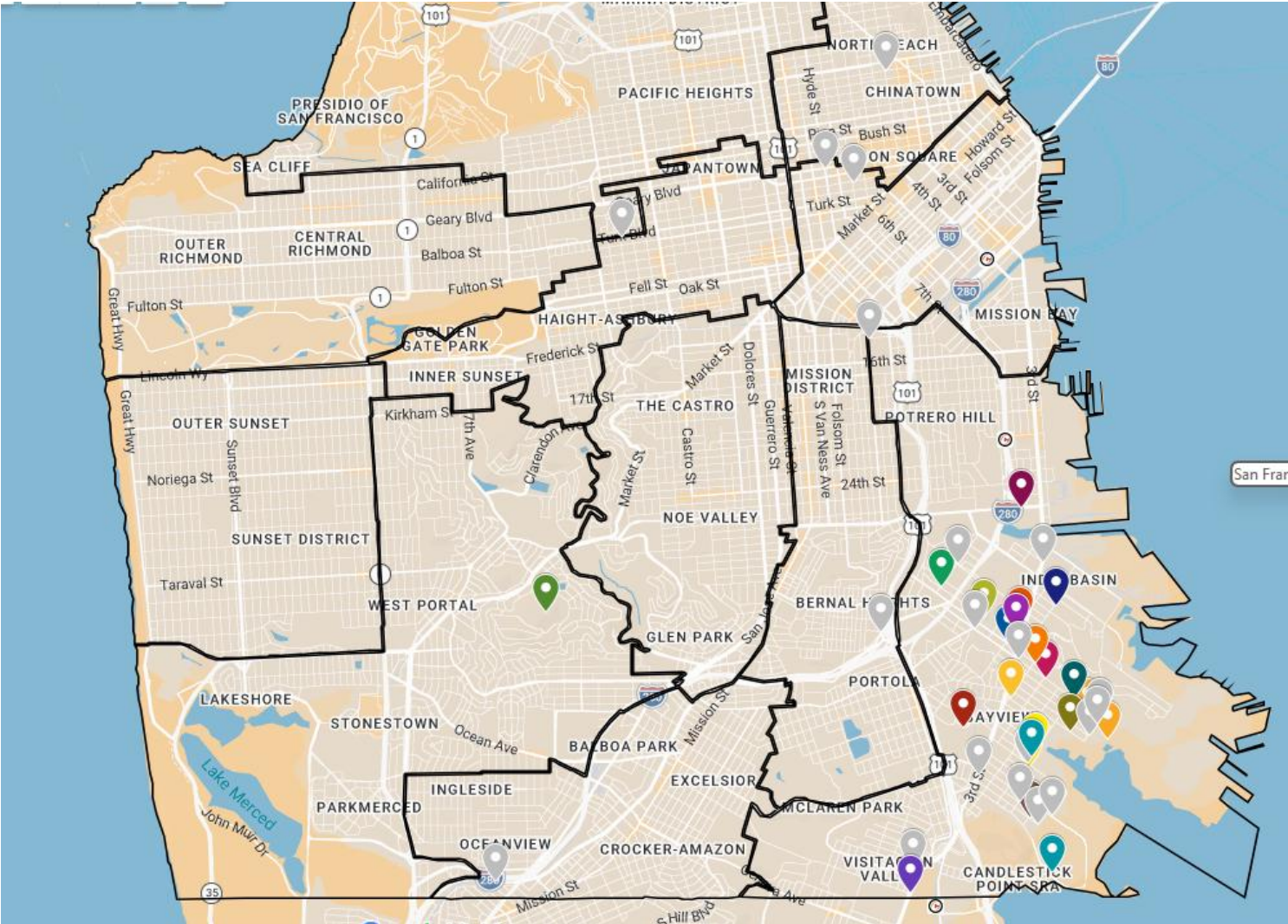
Sample video of illegal dumping evidence provided by D10 resident.

Surveillance Technology Policy: Proposed Locations

Illegal Dumping Camera System Proposed Locations

Priority locations based on:

- Bureau of Street Environmental Services data
- Illegal dumping hotspots
- Community engagement history



Surveillance Technology Policy: Data Security

San Francisco Public Works' surveillance technology policies follow City and County of San Francisco citywide surveillance technology policy.

Access to data is limited to specific employees.

Data Retention: 30 days for raw data. Only video clips/images will be retained for authorized uses in the policies.

Data Sharing: Sharing of data with external parties is prohibited.

Clips for authorized uses may be shared with City departments on a case-by-case basis to pursue criminal charges for illegal dumping.

Surveillance Technology Policy: Data Storage Options

San Francisco Public Works' surveillance technology policies follow City and County of San Francisco citywide surveillance technology policy.

Data storage options:

Option 1: Data may be stored in department local storage drive

Option 2: Data may be stored in a vendor-managed storage system

Option 3: Data may be stored in a Software as a Service server

Data Retention: Same 30-day raw data retention applies to option 2, 3 (vendors)



QUESTIONS