



Surveillance Impact Report

Mounted Cameras on Mobile Command Vehicle

Fire Department

As required by San Francisco Administrative Code, Section 19B, departments must submit a Surveillance Impact Report for each surveillance technology to the Committee on Information Technology ("COIT") and the Board of Supervisors.

The Surveillance Impact Report details the benefits, costs, and potential impacts associated with the Department's use of Mounted Cameras on Mobile Command Vehicle.

DESCRIPTION OF THE TECHNOLOGY

The Department's mission is to protect the lives and property of the people of San Francisco and its visitors from fires, natural disasters, accidents, hazardous materials incidents, and other causes requiring a rapid and skilled response by land or water; serve the needs of its most vulnerable residents through community paramedicine, and save lives and reduce suffering by providing emergency medical services; prevent harm through prevention services and education programs; and to provide a work environment that is free from harassment and discrimination, and values health, wellness, cultural diversity, and equity.

In line with its mission, the Department uses Mounted Cameras on Mobile Command Vehicle to protect lives and property of the people of San Francisco and its visitors.

The Department shall use Mounted Cameras on Mobile Command Vehicle only for the following authorized purposes:

Authorized Use(s):

- 1. Incident Management at the scene of a large-scale Fire or EMS incident*
- 2. Capturing of video to be used as part of a future Operational/Command Training for employees*

Any use(s) not identified in the Authorized Use(s) above are strictly prohibited.

Department technology may be located and deployed anywhere there is a large incident in San Francisco (or regionally if needed). The Fire Department's Mobile Command vehicle can be deployed anywhere in the City to be used as a tool in response to a large scale fire or EMS emergency. This vehicle acts as a portable command center, and is used by SFFD Command Staff and Senior Officers to assist in managing an incident (deploying resources, managing communications, notifying the media or other external parties). This vehicle is stored at a fire house and is deployed as requested by command staff and driven to the scene of the incident. The technology here in question are the video cameras that are physically attached to the vehicle. **Technology Details**

Surveillance Oversight Review Dates

COIT Review: TBD

Board of Supervisors Review: TBD

The following is a product description of Mounted Cameras on Mobile Command Vehicle:

AXIS Q6055-E is a top-of-the-line, outdoor-ready PTZ dome with HDTV 1080p, 32x optical zoom, and fast and precise pan/tilt for wide area coverage and detailed surveillance at great distances. The highlight sensitivity and day/night functionality ensure high image quality even in low-light conditions, while Axis Zipstream technology reduces bandwidth and storage requirements. With guard tour, it is possible to direct the camera automatically to 256 preset positions. Arctic Temperature Control ensures safe startup in extreme cold. AXISQ6055-E offers shock detection, automatic defog, and built-in video analytics, such as highlight compensation, object removed, enter/exit detection, autotracking, and Active Gatekeeper.

A. How It Works

Mounted Cameras on Mobile Command Vehicle is a very high-definition camera that is attached to the SFFD's Mobile Command unit. It allows incident managers access to view video of the incident in real time, so as to better allocate resources as well as warn of potential dangers without direct exposure. The Mobile Command Vehicle is located in an SFFD fire station and is deployed as needed. It is secured and locked at the station, and then is deployed to the scene of an incident when called through a dispatch request. The vehicle can also be staged at an area for a planned event or exercise.

At a scene, the external cameras can be activated, allowing senior staff members and supervisors that are inside the Mobile Command Vehicle to have an extended view outside of the vehicle that is focused on the incident in hand. Video is controlled and shown real time to the members on the Mobile Command Vehicle, but at the same time is being recorded on a local storage drive where it is writing over itself if not captured and transferred.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The impact assessment addresses the conditions for surveillance technology approval, as outlined by the Standards of Approval in San Francisco Administrative Code, Section 19B:

1. The benefits of the surveillance technology outweigh the costs.
2. The Department's Policy safeguards civil liberties and civil rights.
3. The uses and deployments of the surveillance technology are not based upon discriminatory or viewpoint-based factors and do not have a disparate impact on any community or Protected Class.

The Department's use of the surveillance technology is intended to support and benefit the residents of San Francisco while minimizing and mitigating all costs and potential civil rights and liberties impacts of residents.

A. Benefits

The Department's use of Mounted Cameras on Mobile Command Vehicle has the following benefits for the residents of the City and County of San Francisco:

X Public Safety: This is a unique tool that Fire Department members can use at the scene of a large incident to assist with managing the incident. This provides crews responding a new set of eyes (so to speak) on-scene, with a vantage point that members in the fire do not have access to.

B. Civil Rights Impacts and Safeguards

The Department has considered the potential impacts and has identified the technical, administrative, and physical protections as mitigating measures:

The San Francisco Fire Department strives to mitigate all potential civil rights impacts through responsible technology and associated data use policies and procedures. The Fire Department intends to use mobile command cameras and their associated data exclusively for aforementioned authorized uses cases. All other uses, including surveillance of San Francisco residents or groups, are expressly prohibited.

To protect camera data from potential breach, misuse or abuse that may result in civil rights impacts, data is not recorded or stored on servers. Only persons authorized to utilize the raw data may access the information.

Only data that has been edited to remove PII will be shared and stored, and sharing will only occur with partner CCSF agencies on a case by case basis or as required by law. To mitigate any potential impacts to residents' physical safety or economic loss through property damage.

Recorded data will not be collected, disseminated or retained solely for the purpose of monitoring activities protected by the U.S. Constitution, such as the First Amendment's protections of religion, speech, press, assembly, and redress of grievances (e.g., protests, demonstrations). Collection, use, dissemination, or retention of recorded data should not be based solely on individual characteristics (e.g., race, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, age, or gender), which is a violation of the law.

Administrative Safeguards: Video is not accessible by just anyone, but rather only assigned incident managers assigned to an incident, and support staff operating the mobile command vehicle.

Physical Safeguards: Data is physically secured on serves on Fire Department mobile command unit, and is not stored or able to be viewed remotely. This vehicle is securely stored at a Fire Department station when not deployed at an incident.

C. Fiscal Analysis of Costs and Benefits

The Department's use of Mounted Cameras on Mobile Command Vehicle yields the following business and operations benefits:

X Financial Savings: This technology can assist with cost mitigation, as it can be used to assist with emergency response at an incident to potentially reduce the duration of an incident by providing additional relevant information to crews to allow them to finish the incident faster.

X Staff Safety: This technology can be used to improve staff safety at a scene, allowing incident managers the ability to view areas of the incident/buildings that they would not be able to do from the grounds, and provide visuals to crews from dangerous/inaccessible areas

The fiscal cost, such as initial purchase, personnel and other ongoing costs, include:

- Number of FTE (new & existing): H-10 Incident Support Specialist, H-30 Captain, H-40 Battalion Chief, H-50 Assistant Chief, H-33 Captain, 1070 IS Project Manager
- The one-time costs are:
 - Total Salary & Fringe: 0
 - Software: 0
 - Hardware/ Equipment: This equipment was included as part of a larger purchase to redesign and outfit an existing vehicle.
 - Professional Services: 0
 - Training: 0
 - Other: 0

The Department funds its use and maintenance of the surveillance technology through a Homeland Security grant.

COMPARISON TO OTHER JURISDICTIONS

Mounted Cameras on Mobile Command Vehicles are currently utilized by other governmental entities for similar purposes.