

# KEY QUESTIONS TO ANSWER BEFORE MOVING FORWARD WITH ANY SURVEILLANCE PROPOSAL

## WHY ARE YOU CONSIDERING SURVEILLANCE?

- ☐ What specific problem is your community trying to address?
- ☐ How effective will surveillance be in addressing this concern?
- ☐ Are there alternatives that would be more effective, less expensive, or have less impact on civil liberties?

## WHAT ARE THE COSTS AND RISKS?

- ☐ What are the financial costs of surveillance, including long-term training, operation and maintenance?
- ☐ What impact would surveillance have on privacy, free speech, and civil rights?
- ☐ How could surveillance affect trust in law enforcement?
- ☐ Have you completed a Surveillance Impact Report?

## IS THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY ENGAGED IN EVALUATING THE PROPOSAL FROM THE OUTSET?

- ☐ Have you sought input on priorities, costs and risks from all segments of your community?
- ☐ Is there a Surveillance Impact Report and proposed Surveillance Use Policy for the community to review?
- ☐ Will there be public hearings and debate before seeking any funds or purchasing any technology?

## IS SURVEILLANCE THE RIGHT CHOICE?

- ☐ Have elected policymakers reviewed the Surveillance Impact Report and Surveillance Use Policy? Have they had an opportunity to hear public concerns?
- ☐ Will local policymakers specifically vote to approve the project moving forward? Will this happen before seeking any funds or purchasing any technology?
- ☐ Will your community re-evaluate any surveillance program annually and determine whether the program should be continued, modified, or abandoned?

## WILL THESE QUESTIONS BE ANSWERED EVERY TIME?

- ☐ Has your community passed a Surveillance & Community Safety Ordinance to make sure these questions are consistently asked and answered every time surveillance is considered and to ensure proper transparency, oversight and accountability?

# TRANSPARENCY, OVERSIGHT, AND ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISMS FOR SURVEILLANCE TECHNOLOGY

- ♦ **KNOWLEDGE OF THE PUBLIC/PUBLIC DEBATE AT EARLIEST STAGE OF PROCESS**

Public notice and public debate prior to seeking funding or otherwise moving forward with surveillance technology proposals.

- ♦ **A VOTE BY LEADERS:** Public debate at meetings, costs and benefits considered, and a vote by elected policymakers at earliest stage of process before seeking funding or any action to move forward.

- ♦ **INFORMATION MADE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE BEFORE VOTE:** Information about the technology and Surveillance Impact Report and Surveillance Use Policy made available to policymakers and the public prior to vote whether or not to move forward.

- ♦ **DETERMINATION THAT BENEFITS OUTWEIGH COSTS AND CONCERNS:** Local leaders, after facilitating an informed public debate, expressly consider costs (fiscal and civil liberties) and determine that surveillance technology is appropriate or not before moving forward.

- ♦ **THOROUGH SURVEILLANCE USE POLICY:** If decision to move forward, legally enforceable Surveillance Use policy with robust civil liberties, civil rights, and security safeguards enacted by policymakers.

- ♦ **ACCOUNTABILITY FOLLOWING APPROVAL:** Proper oversight of surveillance technology use and accountability through annual reporting, review by policymakers, and enforcement mechanisms.



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