

THE CORPORATION OF THE  
**CITY OF WHITE ROCK**  
CORPORATE REPORT



**DATE:** November 25, 2024  
**TO:** Mayor and Council  
**FROM:** Chris Zota, Chief Information Officer  
**SUBJECT:** CCTV Cameras Phased Approach

---

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT Council receive for information the corporate report dated November 25, 2024, from the Chief Information Officer, titled "CCTV Cameras Phased Approach" for consideration and if there is direction to staff to proceed with one or more of the phases listed below, to award the contract to Houle Electric.

**1. East Beach Phase - Financial Implications - Priority One:**  
*Finlay Street up to the Grand Chief Bernard Robert Charles Memorial Plaza (but not including the Plaza area)*

Project Implementation	\$139,888
Privacy and Impact Assessment Consultant	\$10,000
Tree Management Report	\$2,000
Estimated Pruning Needs	\$20,000
<b>Capital Total</b>	<b>\$171,888</b>
Annual Operating Total	\$82,000
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 253,888</b>

**2. West Beach Phase - Financial Implications - Priority Two:**  
*Area at Memorial Park Washrooms up to Bay Street*

Project Implementation	\$377,185
Privacy and Impact Assessment Consultant	\$10,000
<b>Capital Total</b>	<b>\$387,185</b>
Annual Operating Total	\$82,000
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$469,185</b>

**3. Uptown Phase - Financial Implications - Priority Three**  
**(does not include significant civil or fibre optic costs as explained in this corporate report): *Intersections between Pacific Avenue and Johnston Road all the way to North Bluff Road***

Project Implementation	\$305,744
Privacy and Impact Assessment Consultant	\$10,000
<b>Capital Total</b>	<b>\$315,744</b>
Annual Operating Total	\$82,000
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$397,744</b>

OR

**4. Implement all Three Phases**

Project Implementation – Phase 1	
Project Implementation – Phase 2	\$161,888
Project Implementation – Phase 3	\$377,185
Privacy and Impact Assessment Consultant	\$305,744
<b>Capital Total</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>
Annual Operating Total	<b>\$874,817</b>
<b>Grant Total</b>	<b>\$82,000</b>
	<b>\$956,817</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

At the regular Council meeting on July 15, 2024, Council directed staff to engage the RCMP to identify optimal locations and provide information for Council’s consideration in taking a phased approach to deploying public CCTV cameras at various locations in White Rock.

Upon further consultation with the RCMP, it was agreed to divide the project into three phases: East Beach, West Beach, and Uptown. Staff advise that, if desired, the Memorial Park portion of the West Beach phase could be implemented as a separate project. The cost for the Memorial Park portion is estimated at **\$22,600**, including PST. RCMP have advised that the East Beach area current holds the highest priority.

**Updated Bids Overview**

Three bids were obtained for this project. Regarding the bid amounts shown in the table below:

- All are inclusive of electrical work, with a 20% contingency.
- The amounts shown below reflect the bids as received, they are shown without additional capital and operating costs considerations.
- Engineering costs related to necessary archeological studies, trenching, tree pruning (significant tree pruning is expected), civil work to support fibre optics, fibre optic work, archaeological permits, insurance, bonding and fuel surcharges are not included in any of the estimates.



Vendor Name	Estimated Cost w/o GST
Phase 1. Unified Systems – East Beach Phase	\$182, 385
Phase 2. Unified Systems – West Beach Phase	\$342, 698
Phase 3. Unified Systems – Uptown Phase	\$233, 304
Phase 1. Houle Electric – East Beach Phase	\$139, 388
Phase 2. Houle Electric – West Beach Phase	\$377,185
Phase 3. Houle Electric – Uptown Phase	\$305,744
Phase 1. Yukon Inc. – East Beach Phase	\$ 90,913
Phase 2. Yukon Inc. – West Beach Phase	\$180,528
Phase 3. Yukon Inc. – Uptown Phase	\$143,348

If Council were to proceed with one or all the proposed phases, based on the best overall value and quality presented, staff recommend entering negotiations with Houle Electric for the installation of cameras and wireless equipment on street light poles, with operation based on wireless point-to-point connectivity. Their proposal demonstrates a strong understanding of the scope of work and the complexities it entails.

**Risks and Mitigation**

- **Regulatory Compliance:**
  - Risk: Non-compliance with *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* FIPPA.
  - Mitigation: Retain a consultant to assist with the Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) applications.
- **Unknown Costs:**
  - Risk: Full cost estimated for each phase of the project, including full annual operating costs, are not yet known.
  - Mitigation: Once a phase has been preliminarily decided upon, staff will obtain quotes for required archeological studies, trenching, tree pruning (significant tree pruning is expected), fibre optics related work, archaeological permits, insurance, bonding and fuel surcharges.
- **Cost Overruns:**
  - Risk: Initial estimate may increase due to unforeseen challenges.
  - Mitigation: Included a 20% contingency fund.
- **Project Delays:**
  - Risk: Possible delays due to permit approvals and archeological findings, should trenching be required.
  - Mitigation: Staff will direct Houle Electric to install cameras and wireless equipment on street light poles based on wireless point-to-point connectivity. No civil work, fibre optic work or archaeological permits are required.

**POTENTIAL CIVIL WORKS**

The bid prices listed above are for the installation of cameras and electrical equipment on street light poles with operation predicated on wireless point-to-point connectivity for priority one and priority two. This eliminates the need for trenching and fibre optics. However, priority three (Uptown) will require trenching, civil work and fibre optics for connectivity and power supply in order to prevent significant tree pruning in the Uptown area. Any trenching will require a civil design and an Archeological Overview Assessment (AOA) at the minimum. This design would take six months and the AOA could take up to one year to complete. The cost of the studies and the trenching would start at several hundred thousand dollars depending on the extent of trenching. These costs have not been included in the Council recommendation and/or bid estimates above and are currently not included in the 2024 Financial Plan. Staff do not recommend proceeding with priority three at this time until staff are directed to begin design for the civil portion to come up with more accurate cost estimates for Council’s consideration.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION**

<b>Motion # &amp; Meeting Date</b>	<b>Motion Details</b>
2023-230 May 15, 2023	<p>That Council direct staff to bring forward a corporate report regarding the City utilizing CCTV cameras in the Uptown and Waterfront areas.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> It was clarified prior to the vote that staff, as an initial step on this topic, will bring forward a corporate report that outlines required resource considerations and potential impacts this could have on other Council priorities</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>
2023-450 November 27, 2023	<p>THAT Council receive the corporate report dated November 27, 2023, from the Chief Information Officer, titled “CCTV Cameras in the Uptown and Waterfront Areas” for consideration; and</p> <p>1. Direct staff to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Engage the RCMP Detachment and identify critical areas where CCTV cameras could be installed in public areas, yet not monitored live, to deter violent crime and anti-social behavior, and collect evidence to help solve violent crime; and</li> <li>b. Undertake a Request for Quotation (RFQ) process.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>
2024-243 July 15, 2024	<p>It was MOVED and SECONDED</p> <p>THAT Council direct staff to meet with the White Rock RCMP Staff Sergeant to identify the critical locations [broken down up to five (5) locations including costing for the five (5) locations] for CCTV cameras and bring this back to Council.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>

**INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND**

Council directed staff to identify optimal areas for CCTV camera installation to assist in responding to or deterring criminal activity based on a crime heatmap from the RCMP detachment. This process identified approximately 30 locations along the Marine Drive strip and the Uptown area. Subsequently, an RFQ process was conducted, resulting in fewer than half a dozen submissions.

Council directed staff to work with the RCMP detachment and break down the project in the order of higher risk areas for potential criminal activity. Staff Sergeant Dixon indicated that the East Beach area is of utmost priority.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

This project could be funded from a combination of the Growing Communities Fund and/or the Accumulated Surplus Reserve. However, the estimates provided do not include many significant identified cost items for which a budget has not yet been determined, including but not limited to:

- Archeological studies
- Trenching
- Tree cutting
- Fibre optics work
- Civil work to support fibre optics
- Permits
- Insurance
- Bonding
- Fuel surcharges
- Warranties
- Service agreements

An immediate need to consider would be to assess and identify resources required to manage PIA applications, and requests in the form of Freedom of Information (FOI), which are anticipated to be impactful for that city function as related to CCTV footage for an initial pilot program. After the pilot program, the costs and efficiency of using a consultant can be reviewed, and a decision can be made whether to continue with the consultant for this function or hire a permanent full-time employee for this role. At this time, it would be a potential annual cost of \$82K which is referred to as 'Annual Operating Total' in the Recommendations section of this report. \$82K is equal to a property tax increase of approximately 0.26%. For your reference, a 1% tax increase is equal to approximately \$308K, based on 2024 property taxes.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

#### **Provincial Context – FIPPA Parameters for CCTV Use**

In British Columbia, the use of video and audio surveillance by public bodies is regulated by FIPPA legislation. The Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC) oversees and enforces B.C.'s access and privacy laws, including FIPPA and the *Personal Information Protection Act* for private sector organizations.

Seeking approval from the OIPC for this project will be a requirement to ensure the City of White Rock complies with legislation.

## **COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

Regarding privacy implications in operating CCTV cameras in public environments, a communication plan would need to be developed.

## **INTERDEPARTMENTAL INVOLVEMENT/IMPLICATIONS**

Engineering and Municipal Operations, Information Technology, and Corporate Administration staff will work together to deliver the multifaceted implementation of CCTV Cameras as directed by Council.

## **IMPLICATIONS FOR TREE PRESERVATION AND TREE CANOPY ENHANCEMENT**

The proposed technical architecture is largely dependent on wireless point-to-point technology, which requires an unobstructed line of sight for proper and stable connectivity. The equipment must be mounted on city-owned light poles and similar structures, all of which are surrounded by trees with substantial canopies.

The proponents have clearly indicated that some of the tree canopies, particularly those along the East Beach corridor, would have to undergo substantial pruning on the side facing Marine Drive.

The alternative to the above is to run a fiber optics cable to the identified light poles, which can easily quadruple the cost of the project and has not been estimated for at this time.

## **ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

This project does not align with the Council's current strategic priorities, and if it were to move forward, the completion of other current high- and top-priority projects would be impacted.

## **OPTIONS / RISKS / ALTERNATIVES**

The following options are available for Council's consideration:

### **1. High Impact Locations – East Beach Implementation**

Treat this phase as a pilot phase to assess the CCTV system's effectiveness and gather data. Use the pilot's findings to inform a broader implementation strategy.

#### **Risk**

Limited operational impact and potential scalability issues.

#### **Provincial Legislation Implications**

The province may deny the PIA applications.

### **2. Status Quo**

Maintain the current state without proceeding with the installation of CCTV cameras.

Continue to monitor crime trends and re-evaluate the need for CCTV in the future based on changes in public safety concerns and provincial legislation.

This project will have an impact on the ongoing operational priorities and corporate projects.

## **CONCLUSION**

In response to Council's directive, staff engaged with the RCMP to identify critical public areas where non-monitored CCTV cameras could deter crime and anti-social behavior and assist in evidence collection and crime resolution. Staff collaborated with the RCMP detachment to prioritize the identified locations for CCTV camera installation and provide Council with the associated costs.

This targeted approach allows for immediate action in the areas most in need, optimizing resource allocation and potentially yielding quick safety improvements; however, it may not address security concerns in other parts of the city and could limit the comprehensive benefits that a full-scale implementation might offer.

By prioritizing high-impact locations, Council can enhance public safety efficiently while managing costs and resources effectively, making a strategic decision that addresses the most pressing community concerns.

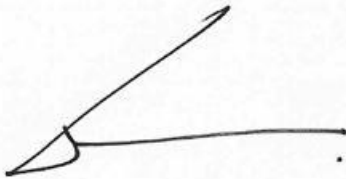
Respectfully submitted,



Chris Zota  
Chief Information Officer

## **Comments from the Chief Administrative Officer**

This report is provided for Council's consideration and direction to staff.



Guillermo Ferrero  
Chief Administrative Officer

Appendix A: 2024-07-15 CCTV Cameras RFQ Options