

Notice of Motion, Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece: Safe City Camera Program (SCCP)**Motion**

1. That the Future Melbourne Committee:
 - 1.1. Notes the resolution of Council dated 30 May 2023 relating to the Safe City Camera Program.
 - 1.2. Resolves to allocate new capital expenditure to upgrade the existing Safe City Camera Program, and the purchase and installation of new cameras to expand the network, and refers this expenditure to the 2025/26 draft Budget.
 - 1.3. Requests City of Melbourne management undertakes a review of the Safe City Camera Program policies to consider:
 - 1.3.1. permitting the use of camera footage by Council-authorized officers for the investigation and enforcement of incidents involving:
 - damage to public or private property and infrastructure
 - defacement or destruction of the natural environment
 - acts of public nuisance, and
 - other enforcement issues that result in costs to the organisation and ratepayers.
 - 1.4. Requests City of Melbourne management investigate and provide advice on options regarding the use of video analytics to enhance the effectiveness of the Safe City Camera Program.
 - 1.5. Requests Management prepare a report to Council on the outcomes of the review by June 2025.

Background

1. The City of Melbourne's Safe City Cameras Program (SCCP) was established by resolution of Council in December 1995, with the initial cameras fully operational by February 1997. All major expansions of the network have been funded by and in partnership with the Victorian Government.
2. The upgrade and expansion of the SCCP aims to create a safer physical environment across the city. The key objectives of the program are to deter potential offenders, enable the early detection of criminal offences, anti-social behaviour, and assist with rapid emergency responses.
3. A previous Council resolution passed on 30 May 2023, copied below, currently limits the City's ability to invest in and effectively utilise the SCCP.

*That Council:**1.1. Notes:*

1.1.1. The expansion of the Safe City Camera Program (SCCP) since its inception in 1995.

1.1.2. That the draft Annual Plan and Budget for 2023–24 includes the proposed activity "In partnership with the Victorian Government, expand, enhance and upgrade the Safe City Camera program. This includes expanding the camera network to Lygon Street in Carlton, and investigating the use of the network to identify amenity issues that contribute to perceived community safety concerns, such as cleanliness, graffiti and dumped rubbish," with a capital expenditure allocation of \$520,000.

1.1.3. That this proposed program takes the SCCP outside the central city, and anticipates a purpose beyond crime detection and emergency response, both for the first time.

1.1.4. That all previous major expansions to the SCCP have been paid for by the State Government, often after a tragic event, with the Council paying for maintenance after installation.

1.2. Seeks confirmation from management on whether the State Government is willing to pay for the capital outlay of the expansion of the SCCP into Carlton and, where possible, requests that any agreement is reflected in the final 2023–24 Budget.

1.3. Maintains a policy of not funding new capital expenditure to expand the SCCP through Council funds and that any future expansions of the SCCP will therefore only be contemplated where the State Government provides the cost of purchase and installation of new cameras, with any exceptions to this policy to be determined by express decision of the Council in open session, on notice.

1.4 Resolves that any expansion of the SCCP beyond its purpose to “aid detection of crime, aid identification and apprehension of offenders, and assist emergency response” should only come after the SCCP policies and manual are comprehensively reviewed, including by the SCCP Audit Committee, Victoria Police and the same stakeholders involved in advising on the program at its inception and in the 2010 policy review, and proposed updated policies and manuals are endorsed by Council or delegated Committee in open session, on notice.

Moved: Lord Mayor Nick Reece

Seconded: Cr Camillo