


F R O M	NAME & TITLE	Todd Carter <i>Todd A. Carter</i> Chief Information Officer	CITY of	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Baltimore City Information & Technology 401 E. Fayette Street, 3rd floor	BALTIMORE	
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 23-0377 Surveillance Technology - Procurement	M E M O	

November 3, 2023

TO: The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
Room 400 City Hall
c/o Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

The Baltimore City Information and Technology (BCIT) has completed its review of Council Bill 23-0377 Surveillance Technology - Procurement. The purpose of this bill is creating the Community Advisory Commission on Surveillance; providing for the membership and duties of the Commission; requiring City Council approval for the purchase of certain equipment; requiring City agencies to submit certain reports; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the City’s procurement of surveillance technology

BCIT interprets this legislation to cover agencies that seek city council approval “to use surveillance technology”. CitiWatch is a collaborative initiative to provide closed-circuit television cameras which assist Baltimore Police Department (BPD) with public safety initiatives. BCIT is a partner agency of the BPD and as a steward of the technology, maintains the equipment and network. As business owner, BPD grants access to the technology to other law enforcement agencies and determines locations. This bill requires a surveillance impact report and a surveillance use policy. BCIT anticipates providing content for the surveillance impact report, particularly as it relates to the fiscal impact of CitiWatch. BCIT would also provide technical assistance to BPD as it develops and/or refines a surveillance use policy. BCIT would not maintain the policy as we are a supporting agency.

BCIT defers to the Law Department for Council Bill 23-0377 Surveillance Technology – Procurement. We look forward to attending the upcoming hearing. If you have any questions, please contact Leyla Layman, Chief of Staff, at (443) 202-4511.

cc: Ms. Nina Themelis, Director, Mayor’s Office of Government Relations