

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 20-0486
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Costello, Schleifer, Clarke, President Scott, Councilmembers
Bullock, Cohen, Sneed, Middleton, Stokes, Reisinger, Henry, Pinkett

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2020

Assigned to: Public Safety Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Planning, Department of
Finance, Police Department, Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice, Baltimore City State's
Attorney's Office

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Private Security Camera System Rebate Program – Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Private Security Camera System Rebate Program in Baltimore
4 City; setting forth certain eligibility requirements; requiring that applicants to the Program
5 submit an application containing certain specified information; providing that the Director of
6 Finance pay a rebate to certain property owners or lessees that meet certain Program
7 requirements; permitting the Director of Finance to prioritize applications for rebates based
8 on equity and certain other metrics; requiring the adoption of rules and regulations to carry
9 out the Program; requiring that the Department of Planning and the Mayor's Office of
10 Criminal Justice collaborate with the Director of Finance on the Program's rules and
11 regulations; mandating that the Director of Finance provide the Mayor and City Council with
12 an annual report detailing certain data about the Program; providing for criminal penalties;
13 defining certain terms; and generally relating to a Private Security Camera Rebate Program.

14 BY adding

15 Article 5 - Finance, Property, and Procurement
16 Section(s) 14-1 to 14-9, to be under the new subtitle,
17 "Subtitle 14. Private Security Camera System Rebate Program"
18 Baltimore City Code
19 (Edition 2000)

20 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
21 Laws of Baltimore City read as follows:

22 **Baltimore City Code**

23 **Article 5. Finance, Property, and Procurement**

24 **Subtitle 14. PRIVATE SECURITY CAMERA SYSTEM REBATE PROGRAM**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

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§ 14-1. DEFINITIONS.

(A) *IN GENERAL.*

IN THIS SUBTITLE, THE FOLLOWING TERMS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) *DIRECTOR.*

“DIRECTOR” MEANS THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE OR THE DIRECTOR’S DESIGNEE.

(C) *PERSON.*

“PERSON” MEANS:

(1) AN INDIVIDUAL;

(2) A PARTNERSHIP, FIRM, ASSOCIATION, CORPORATION, OR OTHER ENTITY OF ANY KIND; OR

(3) A RECEIVER, TRUSTEE, GUARDIAN, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE, FIDUCIARY, OR REPRESENTATIVE OF ANY KIND.

(D) *PROGRAM.*

“PROGRAM” MEANS THE PRIVATE SECURITY CAMERA SYSTEM REBATE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED BY THIS SUBTITLE.

(E) *SECURITY CAMERA SYSTEM; SYSTEM.*

“SECURITY CAMERA SYSTEM” OR “SYSTEM” MEANS ONE OR MORE OUTDOOR SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS WITH FUNCTIONING DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING CAPABILITY.

§ 14-2. PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.

(A) *IN GENERAL.*

THERE IS A PRIVATE SECURITY CAMERA SYSTEM REBATE PROGRAM.

(B) *PURPOSE.*

THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO ENCOURAGE THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF SECURITY CAMERA SYSTEMS IN BALTIMORE CITY.

§ 14-3. PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY.

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A REBATE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, A PROPERTY OWNER OR LESSEE SHALL:

(1) ON OR AFTER JUNE 1, 2020, PURCHASE AND INSTALL A SYSTEM ON THE EXTERIOR OF A DWELLING OR COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENT;

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1 (2) REGISTER THE SYSTEM WITH THE CITIWATCH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP; AND

2 (3) SUBMIT A REBATE APPLICATION TO THE DIRECTOR AS REQUIRED BY § 14-4 {"REBATE
3 APPLICATION"} OF THIS SUBTITLE.

4 **§ 14-4. REBATE APPLICATION.**

5 (A) *IN GENERAL.*

6 IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A REBATE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, A PERSON MUST
7 SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE DIRECTOR.

8 (B) *CONTENTS OF APPLICATION.*

9 THE APPLICATION MUST BE IN THE FORM AND CONTAIN THE INFORMATION THAT THE
10 DIRECTOR REQUIRES, INCLUDING:

11 (1) THE APPLICANT’S NAME;

12 (2) THE ADDRESS WHERE THE SYSTEM IS LOCATED AND WHETHER THE PROPERTY IS
13 PRIMARILY USED FOR RESIDENTIAL OR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES;

14 (3) A PROOF-OF-PURCHASE FOR THE SYSTEM THAT INDICATES THE DATE OF PURCHASE
15 AND THE AMOUNT PAID FOR THE SYSTEM;

16 (4) VERIFICATION THAT THE SYSTEM IS REGISTERED WITH THE CITIWATCH
17 COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP; AND

18 (5) A SIGNED STATEMENT THAT THE APPLICANT AGREES TO HAVE THE SYSTEM
19 ORIENTED TOWARDS A SPECIFIED PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR AT LEAST 2 YEARS.

20 (C) *APPLICATION LIMITS.*

21 (1) *RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES.*

22 A PROPERTY USED PRIMARILY FOR RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES MAY SUBMIT A REBATE
23 APPLICATION FOR 2 SYSTEMS.

24 (2) *COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES.*

25 A PROPERTY USED PRIMARILY FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES MAY SUBMIT AN REBATE
26 APPLICATION FOR UP TO 3 SYSTEMS.

27 (3) *EXCEPTION.*

28 NOTWITHSTANDING THE APPLICATION LIMITS SET FORTH IN PARAGRAPHS (1) AND (2)
29 OF THIS SUBSECTION, A PERSON MAY SUBMIT A REBATE APPLICATION FOR 1
30 ADDITIONAL SYSTEM FOR A PROPERTY THAT HAS ALREADY RECEIVED A REBATE EVERY
31 2 YEARS FROM THE ORIGINAL REBATE DATE.

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1 **§ 14-5. REBATE AMOUNT.**

2 (A) *IN GENERAL.*

3 (1) ON APPROVAL OF A REBATE APPLICATION SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 14-4
4 {"REBATE APPLICATION"} OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE DIRECTOR SHALL PROVIDE A
5 REBATE OF UP TO \$150 PER SYSTEM.

6 (2) THE DIRECTOR MAY ADJUST REBATE AMOUNTS BASED ON:

7 (I) THE PRIORITY OF THE APPLICATION AS SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS
8 SECTION; AND

9 (II) THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.

10 (B) *LIMITATIONS.*

11 (1) A REBATE MAY NOT EXCEED THE ACTUAL COST OF A SYSTEM AS INDICATED ON THE
12 PROOF-OF-PURCHASE SUBMITTED WITH THE APPLICATION.

13 (2) REBATES ARE CONTINGENT ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS AND THE APPLICATION'S
14 PRIORITY UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION.

15 (C) *REBATE PRIORITY; EQUITY.*

16 TO ENSURE THAT REBATES ARE DISBURSED IN AN EQUITABLE MANNER AND IN A MANNER
17 THAT BEST SERVES THE CITY'S INTEREST IN IMPROVING PUBLIC SAFETY, THE DIRECTOR
18 SHALL PRIORITIZE REBATE RECIPIENTS BASED ON:

19 (1) INCIDENTS OF VIOLENT CRIME IN THE VICINITY OF AN APPLICANT'S PROPERTY;

20 (2) MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN THE VICINITY OF AN APPLICANT'S PROPERTY; AND

21 (3) WHETHER THE APPLICANT HAS RECEIVED A REBATE FOR ANY PROPERTY FROM THE
22 CITY IN A PRIOR YEAR.

23 **§ 14-6. {RESERVED}**

24 **§ 14-7. RULES AND REGULATIONS.**

25 (A) *IN GENERAL.*

26 SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS IN THIS SECTION, THE DIRECTOR SHALL ADOPT RULES
27 AND REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE, INCLUDING:

28 (1) THE REQUIREMENTS FOR PROOFS OF PURCHASE AND SYSTEM VERIFICATION;

29 (2) PROCEDURES FOR VERIFYING THAT A SYSTEM IS REGISTERED WITH THE CITIWATCH
30 COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP, INCLUDING A CERTIFICATION ANY REBATE RECIPIENT

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1 PROVIDING THAT THE RECIPIENT MAY NOT USE THE SYSTEM TO INTENTIONALLY
2 RECORD SPECIFIC INDIVIDUALS CONDUCTING LAWFUL ACTIVITY; AND

3 (3) IDENTIFICATION OF PRIORITY AREAS FOR REBATES BASED ON VIOLENT CRIME
4 INDICATORS AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS.

5 (B) *COLLABORATION.*

6 IN DEVELOPING THE REGULATIONS REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION AND ANY SUBSEQUENT
7 AMENDMENTS, THE DIRECTOR SHALL COLLABORATE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF
8 PLANNING AND THE MAYOR’S OFFICE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

9 (C) *PERIODIC REVIEW.*

10 EVERY 2 YEARS FROM THE DATE OF INITIAL ADOPTION OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS
11 REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION, THE DIRECTOR SHALL CONDUCT A REVIEW OF THOSE RULES
12 AND REGULATIONS AND UPDATE THEM AS NECESSARY.

13 (D) *FILING WITH LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE.*

14 A COPY OF ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER THIS SECTION MUST BE FILED
15 WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BEFORE THEY BECOME EFFECTIVE.

16 **§ 14-8. ANNUAL REPORT.**

17 NO LATER THAN JUNE 30 OF EACH YEAR, THE DIRECTOR SHALL PREPARE AND SUBMIT A
18 REPORT TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DETAILING DATA REGARDING THE PROGRAM
19 FROM THE PRECEDING YEAR, INCLUDING:

20 (1) THE NUMBER OF REBATE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED;

21 (2) THE NUMBER OF REBATES ACTUALLY DISBURSED; AND

22 (3) AGGREGATE DATA REGARDING WHICH NEIGHBORHOODS ARE APPLYING FOR REBATES
23 AND WHICH NEIGHBORHOODS ARE RECEIVING REBATES.

24 **§ 14-9. CRIMINAL PENALTIES.**

25 ANY PERSON WHO KNOWINGLY MAKES A FALSE STATEMENT ON OR IN CONNECTION WITH AN
26 APPLICATION FOR A REBATE UNDER THIS SECTION OR IN CONNECTION WITH ANY STATEMENT
27 SUPPORTING A PROPERTY’S ELIGIBILITY FOR A REBATE GRANTED UNDER THIS SECTION IS
28 GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND, ON CONVICTION, IS SUBJECT TO A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN
29 \$1,000 OR TO IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN 12 MONTHS OR TO BOTH FINE AND
30 IMPRISONMENT FOR EACH OFFENSE.

31 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That the catchlines contained in this Ordinance
32 are not law and may not be considered to have been enacted as a part of this or any prior
33 Ordinance.

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1 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30th day
2 after the date it is enacted.