



Committee: PS
Committee Review: At a future date
Staff: Christine Wellons, Senior Legislative Attorney
Purpose: To receive testimony – no vote expected
Keywords: #SecurityCameras #SecurityIncentives

AGENDA ITEM #5
July 12, 2022
Public Hearing

SUBJECT

Bill 14-22, Police – Private Security Camera Incentive Program – Established

Lead Sponsors: Councilmembers Rice and Katz and Council President Alborno

Co-Sponsors: Councilmembers Jawando, Navarro, Hucker, and Friedson

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

None

COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

- To receive testimony, no vote expected

DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

Council Bill 14-22 would:

- (1) establish a private security camera incentive program within the Montgomery County Police Department;
- (2) specify eligibility rules and administrative requirements for the program; and
- (3) generally amend the law regarding policing and programs to support public security.

SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- N/A

This report contains:

Staff Report
Bill 14-22
LRR

Pages 1-2
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MEMORANDUM

July 7, 2022

TO: County Council

FROM: Christine Wellons, Senior Legislative Attorney

SUBJECT: Bill 14-22, Police – Private Security Camera Incentive Program – Established

PURPOSE: Public Hearing – to receive testimony

Bill 14-22, Police – Private Security Camera Incentive Program – Established, sponsored by Lead Sponsors Councilmembers Rice and Katz and Council President Alborno with Co-Sponsors Councilmembers Jawando, Navarro, Hucker, and Friedson, was introduced on June 14, 2022. A public hearing is scheduled for July 12, 2022 and a Public Safety Committee worksession is scheduled for July 28, 2022.¹

Bill 14-22 would:

- (1) establish a private security camera incentive program within the Montgomery County Police Department;
- (2) specify eligibility rules and administrative requirements for the program; and
- (3) generally amend the law regarding policing and programs to support public security.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of Bill 14-22 is to deter crime by incentivizing the installation of security cameras in geographic areas experiencing relatively high incidences of crime. The District of Columbia has a similar program.

BILL SPECIFICS

Bill 14-22 would establish a private security camera incentive program within the Montgomery County Police Department. Under the program, an individual or business could apply to MCPD in order to receive a voucher or rebate to offset the cost of installing a security camera on the individual's or business's property. The property must be within a "priority area" designated by the Police Chief.

¹ #SecurityCameras #SecurityIncentives

The bill would define “priority area” as “one or more police districts identified by the Chief as needing additional security cameras based upon public safety indicators, including crime levels.” The Chief could promulgate regulations to carry out the program.

Under the bill, the Chief also would be required to report to the Council annually regarding the implementation of the program, including the number and amount of rebates and vouchers awarded, and the efficacy of the program.

This packet contains:

Bill 14-22

LRR

Circle #

1

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Bill No. 14-22
Concerning: Police – Private Security
Camera Incentive Program -
Established
Revised: 6/6/2022 Draft No. 1
Introduced: June 14, 2022
Expires: December 13, 2022
Enacted: _____
Executive: _____
Effective: _____
Sunset Date: _____
Ch. _____, Laws of Mont. Co. _____

COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

Lead Sponsors: Councilmembers Rice and Katz and Council President Albornoz
Co-Sponsor: Councilmembers Jawando, Navarro, Hucker, and Friedson

AN ACT to:

- (1) establish a private security camera incentive program within the Montgomery County Police Department;
- (2) specify eligibility rules and administrative requirements for the program; and
- (3) generally amend the law regarding policing and programs to support public security.

By adding

Montgomery County Code
Chapter 35, Police
Section 35-13C

Boldface	<i>Heading or defined term.</i>
<u>Underlining</u>	<i>Added to existing law by original bill.</i>
[Single boldface brackets]	<i>Deleted from existing law by original bill.</i>
<u>Double underlining</u>	<i>Added by amendment.</i>
[[Double boldface brackets]]	<i>Deleted from existing law or the bill by amendment.</i>
* * *	<i>Existing law unaffected by bill.</i>

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:

1 **Sec 1. Section 35-13C is added as follows:**

2 **35-13C. Private Security Camera Incentive Program.**

3 (a) Definitions. In this Section, the following terms have the meanings
 4 indicated.

5 Chief means the Montgomery County Police Chief or the Chief's
 6 designee.

7 Department means the Montgomery County Police Department.

8 Priority area means one or more police districts identified by the Chief
 9 as needing additional security cameras based upon public safety
 10 indicators, including crime levels.

11 Program means the private security camera incentive program
 12 established under this Section.

13 Security camera means an outdoor surveillance camera system, with
 14 functioning digital video recording capability, that is installed on property
 15 owned or leased by an individual, business, or nonprofit organization.

16 (b) Program established. There is a private security camera incentive
 17 program within the Department.

18 (c) Criteria to receive a rebate or voucher. An owner or lessee of a property
 19 may qualify to receive a rebate or voucher under the program if:

20 (1) the applicant is an individual, business, or nonprofit organization;

21 (2) the property is located within a priority area;

22 (3) the rebate or voucher is used solely to offset the costs of a security
 23 camera;

24 (4) the application is submitted in the form and manner prescribed by
 25 the Chief; and

26 (5) the security camera is purchased and installed after the effective
27 date of this Section.

28 (d) Funding and limitations.

29 (1) The amount of a rebate or voucher under the program must not
30 exceed the purchase cost of a security camera.

31 (2) Rebates and vouchers provided under the program are subject to
32 appropriation.

33 (3) The Department may seek federal or state funding to support the
34 program.

35 (e) Regulations. The Chief may promulgate Method (2) regulations to
36 implement the requirements of this Section.

37 (f) Annual report. The Chief must report to the Council annually regarding
38 the implementation of the program, including the number and amount of
39 rebates and vouchers awarded, and the efficacy of the program.

LEGISLATIVE REQUEST REPORT

Bill 14-22

Police – Private Security Camera Incentive Program - Established

DESCRIPTION:	The bill would create a private security camera incentive program within the County Police Department.
PROBLEM:	Crime against persons and property
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:	Deter crime through the incentivization of security camera installation in police districts designated by the chief as “priority areas”.
COORDINATION:	Montgomery County Police Department
FISCAL IMPACT:	To Be Completed
ECONOMIC IMPACT:	To Be Completed
RACIAL EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE IMPACT:	To Be Completed
EVALUATION:	To be done.
EXPERIENCE ELSEWHERE:	District of Columbia
SOURCE OF INFORMATION:	Christine Wellons, Senior Legislative Attorney
APPLICATION WITHIN MUNICIPALITIES:	Yes; applies within municipalities
PENALTIES:	N/A