



# *CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT*

---

MEETING DATE: April 19, 2005

ITEM NUMBER: Item Number

**SUBJECT: PHASE II OF CAMERA AND RECORDING SYSTEM FOR COSTA MESA JAIL**

**DATE: March 31, 2005**

**FROM: POLICE DEPARTMENT / TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION**

**PRESENTATION BY: LT. ALLEN HUGGINS**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: LT. ALLEN HUGGINS 714-754-5282**

---

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

The following recommendations are made:

1. Approve the agreement and authorize the City Manager to sign the Purchase Request and contract for Phase II of the Costa Mesa City Jail security camera system with Siemens Building Technology Inc., Security System Division, 10775 Business Center Drive, Cypress, CA 90603. Phase I of the two-phase project was completed in November 2003. The total amount for Phase II is \$27,542.
2. Approve the attached budget adjustment BA #05-060 for \$21,000 to appropriate funds from the Inmate Welfare Fund for Phase II of the Jail security camera system.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Costa Mesa City Jail operates a jail security camera system so that Custody Officers can monitor the safety and welfare of inmates. The system that existed prior to Phase I of the project, was a closed circuit TV monitoring system that provided the Watch Commander a view of the booking / intake area only. The equipment that was being utilized prior to the completion of Phase I was 1980's technology, which lacked the capability to record images. Upon completion of Phase I, the system now has the capability to record images in most areas of the jail. Audio capability was not included in Phase I. Phase I also did not provide cameras in critical areas such as the inmate workers quarters, kitchen, east portion of the sally port, and the east / west hallway in the Jail.

Phase II of the jail camera system will provide cameras in the critical areas mentioned, as well as a pan-tilt-zoom (PTZ) camera that will provide a view of the rear lot of the police facility. This camera will allow the watch commander and custody staff to visually watch inmates released from the jail facility as they egress the parking lot area. It will also include audio capabilities in the two booking cells. Phase II will allow for the

cameras that view the Police Department front door, lobby and rear door to be monitored and recorded. As in Phase I, the system will provide for digital storage of the images recorded. These images are accessible through a secure site on the City's LAN and monitoring posts in the Jail and Watch Commander's office. The additional cameras to be added to the security system will also allow the Custody Officers to select and adjust the view of specific cameras for enhanced viewing and inmate security.

### **ANALYSIS:**

The Costa Mesa City Jail booked approximately 353 arrestees a month in 2004. The arrestees booked included a wide variety of criminals from minor traffic violations to serious felonies. The inmates are frequently heavy drug and alcohol users with many health issues. Many inmates pose a high security and safety risk to the custody staff and other inmates. For these reasons, a camera system covering the jail provides increased protection for the inmates, custody officers and police officers. The ability to record these images is a deterrent to inmates who might engage in criminal acts while in the jail, i.e. disturbances and or City property damage. The recorded images serve as evidence against them. While the City employees who work in the high-risk environment have a long track record of very professional conduct, the camera system also serves as a deterrent to employee misconduct.

When inmates are released from the jail, they exit out of the sally port of the facility. They are instructed to walk directly to the sidewalk adjacent to Vanguard Way. The custodial staff is unable to see the inmates once they exit the sally port unless they leave the jail. This is not usually possible since many times, only one custody officer is working and leaving the jail open for them to have access back into the jail is impractical and a security risk. The PTZ camera will help to facilitate the custody staff as well as the watch commander in ensuring that the inmate leaves the facility grounds.

The original quote in May of 2003 for Phase II of the Costa Mesa Jail security system was \$19,055. Since that time, additional upgrades have been included in the security system to enhance the capabilities of the system to ensure adequate coverage and allow for additional cameras in the future. The additional upgrades include upgrading the four monitors in the Watch Commander's office to two (2) LCD flat screen monitors. The LCD flat screen monitors have higher resolution and a higher pixel ratio for better viewing and take up less space than the four monitors now being used. An upgraded digital video recorder (DVR) was added to accommodate sixteen channels of video input from the originally quoted nine. The existing Matrix switch was upgraded to allow for eight controllable monitor outputs for more controlled viewing capability. Each of the upgrades was added to maximize the use potential of the security system.

The Jail is a high risk, high liability operation. The additional cameras and audio system being proposed for Phase II of this project will increase inmate and City personnel security and provide enhanced management oversight to further help mitigate high risk and liability concerns.

### **ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:**

The Jail staff reviewed proposals by other companies for similar camera systems prior to Phase I of the camera and recording system being approved by the City Council on

July 7, 2003. The proposals were rejected for several reasons. The Police Department is utilizing Siemens for the building security system. The jail camera system and the building security system will ultimately be integrated with a facility wide monitoring and control station in the Watch Commanders Office. Siemens is best suited to insure complete and seamless integration of the various systems. Additionally, Siemens will be able to provide system support, maintenance and training for all the systems.

**FISCAL REVIEW:**

The total cost of Phase II of the jail security system is \$27,542. The attached budget adjustment BA #05-060 appropriates \$21,000 from the Inmate Welfare Fund to the Police Department's operating budget to cover most of the project cost. These funds are proceeds from the inmate pay phones located in the jail area. Section 4025 of the California Penal Code specifically authorizes the Chief of Police to expend these funds for the benefit and welfare of the inmates. There is sufficient funding available within the Inmate Welfare Fund for the purchase of Phase II of the camera and recording system project.

The remaining \$6,542 can be absorbed within the Police Department's existing budget, as reflected in the above budget adjustment.

**LEGAL REVIEW:**

Legal has reviewed the documents and approved them as to form.

**CONCLUSION:**

Recommend the purchase of the jail camera system.

\_\_\_\_\_  
ALLEN HUGGINS  
Lieutenant

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN D. HENSLEY  
Chief of Police

\_\_\_\_\_  
MARC R. PUCKETT  
Director of Finance

\_\_\_\_\_  
KIM BARLOW  
City Attorney

**DISTRIBUTION:**

- ATTACHMENTS:    1    [Scope of Work](#)  
                          2    [Budget Adjustment 05-060](#)

041905 Camera and Recording System      040705  
Costa Mesa Jail Phase 2

4:35 p.m.