

City Council

Notice of Motion

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| MM14.4 | ACTION | | | Ward: All |
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Use of Surveillance Cameras on Private Property - by Councillor Mark Grimes, seconded by Councillor Anthony Perruzza

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Planning and Housing Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Mark Grimes, seconded by Councillor Anthony Perruzza, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards to assess the feasibility of prohibiting or restricting surveillance cameras from recording video footage of any residential property beyond an individual's property, as part of the review of Chapter 629, Property Standards, expected in the third quarter of 2020.

Summary

Currently, the City of Toronto has no by-laws or jurisdiction to regulate the installation and/or use of surveillance cameras on private property. As the use of this technology becomes more common, we must take into consideration the direct impact that these devices may have on our neighbours.

The City of Toronto is increasingly receiving complaints about privately owned surveillance cameras capturing images of residents on their own private property, such as a backyard, front porch, and even into their own homes.

Other municipalities have passed by-laws regulating the use of surveillance cameras, or are considering doing so. The Ontario Privacy Commissioner has addressed the issue of CCTV cameras and private properties, and has outlined privacy concerns regarding the use of data collected by these devices.

Municipal Licensing and Standards has a report scheduled for 2020 to update the City of Toronto's Property Standards By-law. This Motion seeks to include an assessment of the feasibility of prohibiting or restricting surveillance cameras from recording video footage of any residential property beyond an individual's property, as part of the review of Chapter 629, Property Standards.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM14.4

