



City of Seattle

David G. Jones
Office of the Seattle City Auditor
700 5th Ave, Suite 2410
Seattle, WA, 98104

January 8, 2024

Dear City Auditor Jones,

We respectfully request that your office assist us in evaluating the City's (1) current crime prevention and reduction programs and investments and (2) the soon-to-be-deployed technologies described below.

We request that your office update your 2012 assessment of crime prevention programs funded by the City, including programs operated by the City and those run by community-based nonprofit organizations. Like the 2012 assessment, please identify the evidence-based programs, those with no evidence of effectiveness, those that may be promising, and those that may cause harm. We also value your opinion on what crime prevention or reduction programs the City is not using that we should consider implementing. We would like this assessment as soon as possible to help inform decisions for the 2025 City budget, which will be made beginning in April.

Assuming the City Council gives final approval, SPD will soon deploy CCTV cameras and an acoustic gunshot locator system. These technologies will primarily be used to assist detectives in collecting evidence and deter criminal behaviors related to gun violence, human trafficking, and persistent felony crimes that are concentrated at specific geographic locations. Separately, SPD will soon expand the use of Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) technology to all vehicles equipped with dashboard cameras.

A key factor in deploying the CCTV, AGLS, and ALPR technologies is their integration with SPD's Real Time Crime Center. It will be important to assess the integration with the RTCC and whether the desired outcomes are being achieved.

Finally, we also ask that you consult with the Office of the Inspector General for Public Safety, the Office of Civil Rights, and SPD in developing the evaluation metrics to assess the effectiveness of these technology tools and propose an evaluation period for each technology, including the integration with the RTCC, and how the public will receive updates as the work progresses, including any findings or recommendations you may issue. Except for the expanded use of ALPR (a tool already in use on a limited basis), the evaluation metrics must be established *before* the technologies are deployed in late June or early July this year.

Strategic Advisor Sarah Smith has been assigned as your liaison in the mayor's office for this work. She can be reached at sarah.smith@seattle.gov or 206-255-8292 (city mobile). Please connect with Sarah, as she is ready to assist you with this work.

We thank you for your consideration, and please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bruce A. Harrell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bruce A. Harrell
Mayor of Seattle

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sara Nelson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sara Nelson
Seattle City Council President