

**Resolution by the Ann Arbor Human Rights Commission  
in Support of the Proposed Video Privacy Ordinance  
Passed April 10, 2013**

WHEREAS, over the past decade there has been a dramatic expansion in governmental video surveillance of public spaces at the local level;

WHEREAS, without regulatory requirements, the installation of these cameras can actively target selected individuals or groups or disproportionately monitor members of a given racial or social minority as an unintended consequence of placement decisions;

WHEREAS, without adequate regulation and oversight, abuse of surveillance and the information it amasses presents tempting opportunities for some, is easy to carry out, and can result in serious privacy infringements;

WHEREAS, current research has not found surveillance cameras to be effective in preventing crime or infallible in identifying the perpetrators of a crime;

WHEREAS, purchasing, installing, and maintaining video surveillance camera equipment and monitoring and managing the recordings tend to be far more expensive than expected and have not been shown to be cost-effective;

WHEREAS, it is questionable that surveillance cameras can improve public safety, limited funds can be better spent on programs that are both proven effective and less invasive, such as improved lighting, foot patrols, and community support;

RESOLVED that the City Council of Ann Arbor adopt the proposed Video Privacy Ordinance, which would regulate the installation and use of surveillance cameras by the City, amending the Code of the City of Ann Arbor and adding it as Title I, Chapter 25, in the Ann Arbor Code of Ordinances, with the title, Video Privacy.