

CAPISTRANO BAY DISTRICT
AGENDA REPORT
June 25, 2013

Security Reports

ITEM F.2

Recording of Vehicle License Plates

At the May Board meeting a discussion centered around the concern over individuals who show up at our gate with no authorization, no homeowner name, no address and no way for security to determine their destination.

It is possible and is strongly suspected that such an individual may be "fishing" for an opportunity to gain access for the purpose of theft and burglary.

The suggestion was made to make a photo-copy of these suspicious individuals' drivers' licenses at the point of entry. Security has pointed out that no potential thief is going to willingly hand over his/her ID for copying purposes and security feels that purchasing a desktop copy machine for this purpose would be a wasted expense.

On the other hand, a good alternative would be a closed circuit video camera system that displays/records the license plate of every vehicle passing through the guest/service side of the guard building.

This concept is a fairly common technology that many gated communities use to help deter crime from the mere fact that the printed pass shows the license plate of that particular vehicle which sends a message to the driver that we know who you are, plus having the license plate in the system for police use.

There are two types of systems:

Closed Circuit TV (CCTV) estimated cost: \$1762

This is a basic system using a high quality night-seeing camera that is wired to a separate color live monitor in the guard station that the gate officer can read from while printing up a pass. This system essentially captures the image of the license plate and displays it on the monitor thus eliminating the time required by the gate officer to step out of the building, jot the license number on a notepad, come back into the building and type it into the system. While this doesn't seem like too much time, it can become a serious time delay especially during the peak busy time on the weekends and during the summer. This option requires the gate attendant to type the license plate number into the computer to be printed on the pass and recorded in the database.

Automated License Plate Capture estimated cost: \$13,540 plus \$295/mo.

This is a much more sophisticated system with it's own computer and software that does everything the CCTV system performs with the one huge difference in that it automatically captures and records the license plate into the database and prints it onto the pass that is being issued.

The main advantage of capturing and recording vehicle license plates (regardless of which system you chose) is with deterrence of crime before it happens and the ability to positively ID any vehicle suspected of being involved in a robbery here in our community.