

CAPISTRANO BAY DISTRICT
AGENDA REPORT
September 30, 2014

Security Reports

ITEM F.2

PROPOSED SURVEILLANCE CAMERA UPGRADE AT GUARD BLDG.
Begin Changing Over From Analog to Digital Technology

As a result of the July 27th vehicle break-in in the 600-block where the homeowner was able to capture the thieves in action on his home security camera system, we've learned a few things about the quality of the surveillance system at the community entrance guard building (refer to the attached diagram for the individual camera locations discussed below).

First, the video evidence from homeowner Jeff Lurner's home security system is the foundation for the District being able to find the vehicles in our system. So on that point I can't say enough about the value of some kind of community-wide CCTV system. With Lurner's video we were able to track the exact time of the crime, get pretty good facial images of the two male thieves and to ID one of the two suspects' vehicles. It turns out one of the vehicles was an easy-to-identify white Scion Tc – 4 door sedan. This enabled us to go back thru our gate surveillance video and find that specific car as it was departing the community on the night of the break-in, although it was very difficult due to the blurry quality of the video record.

We tracked all vehicles leaving the community after 1:00 am on that early Sunday morning and sure enough, right there within about 8 minutes of the crime (on camera #3) was video of the same two cars leaving Beach Road that were in Mr. Lurner's video. The lead car, a black BMW 3 or 5 series had no front plates but the trailing vehicle, the white Scion did have a front license plate and we were able, after much studying, to read the full license plate number.

Secondly, we then scanned thru the video capture from the surveillance camera mounted next to the security gate (camera #1) that is intended to capture a closeup of each driver entering on the guest/service side. While we did find the white Scion entering (earlier that same evening), the picture quality was so poor that you could not tell if the driver was male, female or ET. The other problem is that our dwellingLIVE system only retains temporary guest information for the time period of their visit – once the time expires, so does the name, address and license plate number. So, not only was the facial recognition camera of no use (much too fuzzy and blurry), the license plate info was also of no use (the data dropped out of the system on Sunday and we didn't get to the video data until Monday).

Thirdly, there is another surveillance camera (#5) mounted high and on the front of the guard shack that picks up all movement from the RR grade crossing to a spot immediately in front of the guard shack planter. While the resolution of this camera is of better quality, we found that due to the glare from the flames of the tiki torches, you can't see much of anything during the

time the torches are burning. This was another problem in that we were not able to see the white Scion entering into view from this camera.

Suggested solution: 5 of the 6 cameras at the guard shack are analog units that typically pick up color images during daylight hours then switch automatically to night-time infrared (#6 is strictly license plate capture and produces a decent readable image at all hours). Our camera in the rear of the guard shack (#3) that faces south works great at night because there is no incidental light to interfere with the optics and this is the primary camera that enabled us to ID the crime vehicle. The facial recognition camera (#1) positioned right at the guard shack doorway on the guest driveway has a terrible image at night because the auto-focus feature gets blurred due to the flood lights on that side of the guard shack – the camera can't figure out whether to focus in color or switch over to infrared and the result is a blurry out of focus and useless image. I've looked at some of the new HD digital surveillance camera images from night-time conditions at other locations and the quality is unbelievable. The new technology has been out there now for enough time that the cost has come down considerably. My suggestion would be to make the following improvements to our surveillance system at the guard shack:

- 1) Change out the analog camera (#1) at the guest side driveway to a new HD digital unit that will give us clear ID and facial recognition both during night and day time.
- 2) Feed the license plate images from the license plate capture camera (#6) on the guest driveway directly into our video recorder that retains the video images from all the cameras for about 45 days. Right now the images from this camera only appear on a display monitor during the moment the vehicle is sitting in the driveway, enough time for the gate officer to type in the plate # onto the guest pass. This way we can retain license plate records for 45 days on vehicles being issued short temporary passes.
- 3) Relocate the front-facing surveillance camera (#5) to a new spot that is away from the glare of the tiki torches so it will continue to pick up useful images during the time the torches are burning.
- 4) Mount a second display monitor just outside the guard shack (next to camera #1) where guests sit in their cars waiting for their passes to be issued. This would display their license plate to them, maybe with a notice that says something like, "You are under video surveillance," or, "Your vehicle and license # have been recorded." This could be a significant deterrence to anyone thinking of a theft opportunity in our community.

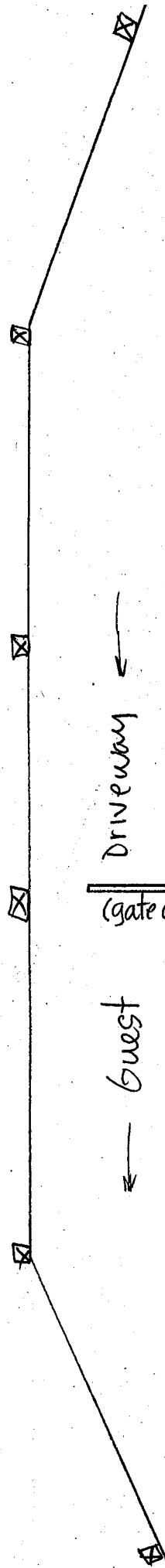
Ball park cost estimate: approx. \$1500-1600

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| - new HD digital camera #1 | \$255 plus install labor |
| - new HD 4-channel video recorder unit | 515 plus install labor |
| - license plate camera #6 loop wiring (to record license plates) | 75 |
| - relocate front-facing camera #5 away from tiki torches | 150 |
| - install secondary video display monitor for guests to read | 185 plus install labor |

I would like to eventually change out cameras 2, 4 and 5 to HD digital units so we are regularly capturing high quality digital images for police purposes in making more positive ID's on suspects but for now having the ability to capture good facial images on camera #1 would be a significant improvement.



OCEAN



Driveway ←

(gate arm)

Guest

STEP

Guard shack

Entrance ↓

(Auto Gates)

Resident

RR TRACKS

