

DOWNTOWN SECURITY

Mover: Matthew Shoemaker

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WHEREAS the 2016 downtown strategy has a vision that includes seven vision pillars for an improved downtown, one of which is to create a “safe place”; and

WHEREAS businesses have recently expressed frustration at increased petty crime, which is on the rise across the city, but is acutely present downtown in the off-business hours when many buildings are unoccupied; and

WHEREAS in 2017 City Council requested a “Downtown Safety Strategy”, the development of which is ongoing; and

WHEREAS to create a safe downtown, the city must invest in technology or resources to create the “safe place” our downtown strategy strives for;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT staff be requested to investigate and, as part of a broader “Downtown Safety Strategy”, report on options increase safety in the downtown, which options could include either surveillance in the downtown core or security patrols in the downtown core during non-core hours and determine if partnerships with downtown merchants, the private sector, or the Downtown Association can facilitate whichever option is recommended.