



City of Homer

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Homer Public Library

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Memorandum 22-088

TO: City Manager Rob Dumouchel

FROM: David Berry, Library Director

DATE: May 3, 2022

SUBJECT: Milestone Licenses for Security Cameras

Milestone Systems manages the servers that store footage from all the security cameras in the City. At the moment, all the City cameras are on “Professional” licenses, based on a version that Milestone is retiring.

Milestone has offered a more-or-less free upgrade to the new “Professional+” license with a yearly support renewal, but the Professional+ level does not offer all the features the City needs. Maintaining highly redundant service across all City sites requires higher-level licenses than we currently have.

Most cameras in the City can run on the “Expert” level, which offers the following important features:

- Hot and cold failover recording—allows two servers to back each other up, so that if one fails, the other automatically takes over storing data from the cameras connected to the lost equipment. Prevents gaps in the recorded data.
- Can be managed and “federated” to a central site, just like our current architecture.

The cameras in the police station need the “Corporate” level, which includes these features:

- Can centrally manage distributed sites—a single workstation can handle upgrades and controls for all the cameras in the City. This allows IT to efficiently manage, configure and control cameras across the City.
- Smart Wall—permits a single viewing station to switch between dozens of cameras, which makes police monitoring much easier.

The City currently pays about \$16,000/year for the existing licenses. Attached are three quotes for upgrades, from different sources.

Including trade-in rebates and savings in client support costs, we estimate the true added cost at roughly \$5,000/year less than the quoted prices.

RECOMMENDATION

Upgrade existing Milestone licenses to higher tiers of service.