



LANCASTER
**Safety
Coalition**

In Our Hands

THE CAMPAIGN FOR A SAFER LANCASTER

.....

Dear friend

OF LANCASTER CITY,





Remember Lancaster of the 1990s? A struggling city. A persistent threat of crime related to gangs and drugs. A downtown deserted in the evenings and on weekends.

Now consider how vibrant our city became by the start of 2020. Many factors contributed to Lancaster's renaissance. But one underpins them all.

Feeling safe.

People had to feel safe before they would visit, shop, dine, or invest in the City of Lancaster. Since the LSC installed its first five cameras in 2005, Part 1 crimes (violent and property crime) have dropped 50%! By providing timely information and video evidence to local law enforcement agencies, LSC has made Lancaster safer, paving the way for economic development.

Most of Lancaster's 170 street cameras are now 10 to 14 years old. In recent years, constrained by funding challenges, the Coalition has been repairing equipment instead of replacing it. Today only a small portion of the system operates in a manner consistent with best practices and technological standards. Failures within the system occur every week.

This campaign will provide a complete overhaul of the entire network. New cameras will provide 360° coverage around each location, protecting Lancaster with a high-tech security blanket. New software will enable camera operators to review in minutes what now takes a full day.

Upgrading our community's public safety cameras is in our hands, and it's essential to Lancaster's future. As we reinvigorate our city in the wake of COVID-19, we must ensure the cameras system's health, which underlies the success of our community and our economy. Please join us to enhance and expand our public safety camera network to make Lancaster an even safer and better place to call home.

Sincerely,



Craig A. Roda
Fulton Bank (Retired)
Campaign Co-Chair



Gene Duncan
Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology
Campaign Co-Chair

A Uniquely Lancaster Solution

No other community in the United States has an extensive network of public safety cameras owned and operated by an independent nonprofit organization. *Only Lancaster.*

Born out of the 2001 Lancaster Crime Commission Report, the Lancaster Safety Coalition took an innovative approach to monitoring public areas using closed-circuit video cameras. Following the wishes of city residents expressed through community meetings and

surveys, the Coalition was established as an objective third party. It supports but operates independently of City and County government and law enforcement agencies—the entities that control public safety cameras in other metropolitan areas.

In Lancaster, through the staff of the Lancaster Safety Coalition, the community watches over the community. It's our own high-tech neighborhood watch for the twenty first century, a community solution for a community problem.

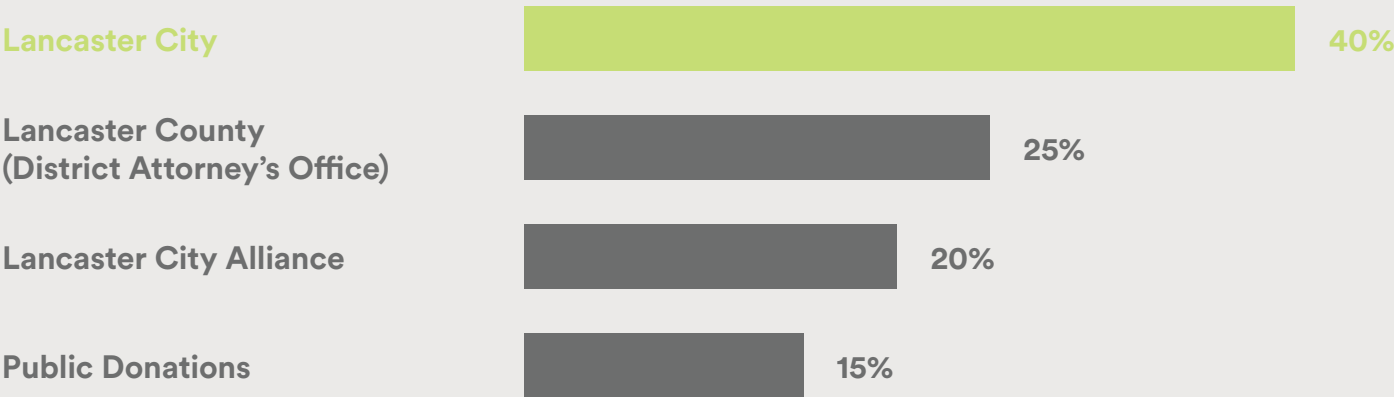
LANCASTER SAFETY COALITION'S MISSION:

*To enhance Lancaster's
community safety.*



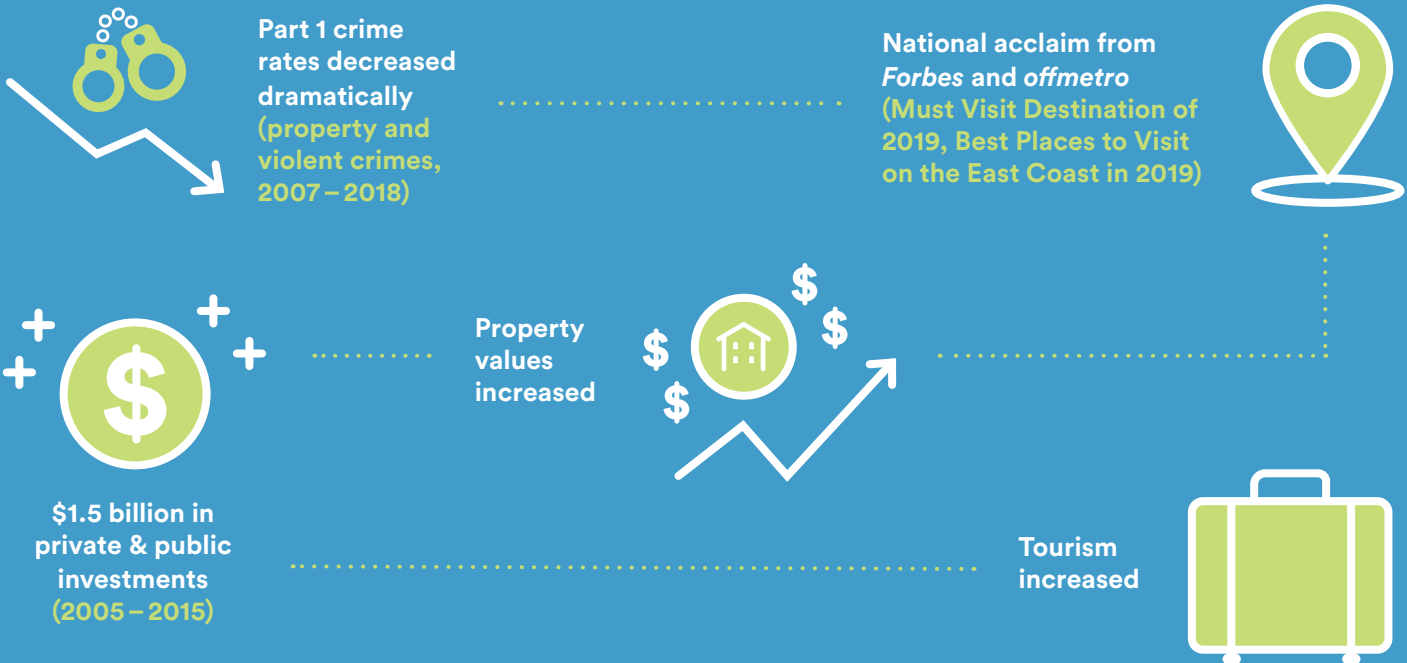
Lancaster Safety Coalition

REVENUE SOURCES 2019



Annual operating budget: About \$500,000

Benefits of a Safer City



THE COMMUNITY'S

Guardian Angels

Since its creation in 2003, the Lancaster Safety Coalition has worked to make Lancaster a safer community. The Coalition's primary responsibilities are providing video evidence to the criminal justice system and monitoring 170 cameras about 18 hours a day and every day of the year.

DIGITAL MASKING

Digital privacy masks cover second story windows and backyards around every camera.



THE PEOPLE

Trained, mostly part-time camera operators:

- Monitor children going to and from school and parks;
- Send live video feeds of incidents to Lancaster police and Lancaster County 911 dispatch;
- Monitor public spaces, including high traffic and high crime areas;
- Call 911 when they observe an emergency;
- Review video to search for any evidence.

THE CAMERAS

Nearly all of LSC's cameras were installed between 2005 and 2009. Operators can pan, tilt, or zoom each camera to monitor activity. However, even when functioning properly, these decade-old cameras miss more than they capture:

- They are lower resolution than today's models and have limited night vision;
- They show no more than one 90° view at a time, completing a scan of the surroundings every 3 minutes;
- Without operator intervention, they often capture a portion of a crime, events surrounding a crime, or are pointed in the wrong direction.

VIDEO EVIDENCE

Video data are preserved for 14 days in a secure server room. Coalition staff follow specific procedures to deliver video evidence to the police, the district attorney, or defense or insurance attorneys, ensuring the chain of evidence required by law.



LSC MONITORING OR VIDEO EVIDENCE HAS:

- Captured irrefutable evidence of hundreds of suspects involved in burglaries, thefts, vandalism, assaults, and other crimes;
- Spotted where a suspect disposed of a weapon or stolen items while being pursued;
- Cleared two young men accused of attacking a woman they were actually trying to help;
- Noticed where a heroin user hid ten hypodermic needles in a city park, enabling police to retrieve them;
- Alerted dispatchers that a police officer was engaged in a struggle with a person he had just stopped and was unable to call for backup;
- Identified a possible suspect and vehicle involved in setting fire to the front door of City Hall.



CURRENT CAMERAS

90°
CAMERA
IMAGE



NEW CAMERAS

360°
CAMERA
IMAGE



HOMELESS WOMAN HELPED

A Lancaster Safety Coalition camera operator noticed a woman with hospital bracelets on her wrists sleeping outside downtown. Police were asked to check on her.

Afterward, Lancaster Safety Coalition staff contacted Tabor Community Services. A caseworker spoke with the woman and found housing for her that evening. *(June 2013)*

***Pictures of Success:** These stories represent a tiny sampling of the results of Lancaster Safety Coalition's live monitoring, video review, and video evidence preservation efforts.



MISSING CHILD FOUND

A caller to 911 reported that her three year old was missing from their home. Lancaster Safety Coalition camera operators began to search the area. Reviewing video, they spotted the child leaving her house and

entering a vacant residence a couple of doors away. Lancaster Safety Coalition staff alerted police, who found the child safe inside the vacant house. She was returned to her mother about 20 minutes after the 911 call. *(May 2019)*

***Pictures of Success:** These stories represent a tiny sampling of the results of Lancaster Safety Coalition's live monitoring, video review, and video evidence preservation efforts.



SHOOTER CAPTURED QUICKLY

Concerned that a fight would break out among a large group of people, Lancaster Safety Coalition camera operators called 911. Four minutes later, Lancaster Safety Coalition staff observed a fatal shooting at the scene. The suspect fled into a nearby house.

Police arrived just 22 seconds later. LSC staff directed police to the suspect's hiding place. Officers secured the perimeter and extracted and arrested the suspected shooter, who had been changing his clothes and shaving his hair to change his appearance. *(March 2007)*

***Pictures of Success:** These stories represent a tiny sampling of the results of Lancaster Safety Coalition's live monitoring, video review, and video evidence preservation efforts.



SERIAL BURGLARS NABBED

A string of area businesses had been broken into with a crowbar. An LSC camera operator noticed a man with a crowbar trying to open the window of a closed business. Alerted to the individual and his direction of travel, police

responded to the area. Within 10 minutes, a burglar alarm went off at a business a few blocks away. Police found the suspect hiding in a closet and arrested him and his accomplice, ending the crime spree. (October 2016)

***Pictures of Success:** These stories represent a tiny sampling of the results of Lancaster Safety Coalition's live monitoring, video review, and video evidence preservation efforts.



360° Coverage Equals A Safer City

This project will upgrade Lancaster's entire safety camera network. Each single lens camera will be replaced with a state-of-the-art, four lens, ultra high definition camera. The new cameras will quadruple the Coalition's ability to monitor public areas of the city. Instead of just seeing one direction at a time from each intersection, camera operators will be able to see simultaneously in all four directions.

The higher resolution cameras will enable Lancaster Safety Coalition staff to view incidents more clearly and pass along critical information to law enforcement and first responders more quickly. The new cameras also offer much better nighttime viewing.

The new system will have the same privacy masking features as the current one. Camera operators will still be digitally blocked from seeing inside upper floor windows or backyards. Only Lancaster Safety Coalition's monitoring supervisor and executive director will be able to override the privacy masking feature.

EXPANDING THE SAFETY NET

The project will install cameras at 17 new locations, extending the benefits of Lancaster's high-tech Neighborhood Watch. The Safety Coalition will partner with Lancaster City Police, the Lancaster City Alliance's Safety Executive Leadership Team, and others to determine new locations based upon need and feasibility.

PILOT PHASE UNDERWAY

In 2019-2020, LSC, in partnership with the City of Lancaster, replaced 35 cameras and reconfigured its monitoring stations to physically distance camera operators. Staff and consultants are now determining how to optimize the new technology's performance, valuable preparation for the full system overhaul.

Installing a new 4 lens, 4K Panasonic camera

Area of city within the view of a camera: 60%

LSC Camera location for Main
Overhaul Project 2020



Behind The Cameras:

A BETTER, FASTER SYSTEM

The ultra high definition cameras will send far more data to the Lancaster Safety Coalition office than current ones, requiring all new computer equipment to be installed. The upgrades will include servers, digital storage facilities, and further enhancements to the monitoring center. These improvements will enable LSC staff to relay timely information to law enforcement with greater speed and process video footage more quickly.

New automation software tied to Lancaster County's 911 system will send camera feeds near high priority incidents directly to the 911 dispatch center and Lancaster police, even in the middle of the night

when the monitoring center is not staffed. The software will reduce the time needed to relay visual data to dispatchers. First responders will get vital information faster.

New analytics software will dramatically decrease the time it takes for LSC staff to review recorded video for potential evidence. Reviews that used to take a day will be accomplished in minutes. Information will be turned over to law enforcement, the district attorney, or lawyers with subpoenas more quickly, and operators will have more time to keep watch over their community.

Beneficial Partnership with the City

The camera system overhaul piggybacks on Lancaster's ongoing modernization of its fiber optic network. The City has begun installing fiber that transmits data faster over longer distances with greater reliability. If the Coalition had to build its own network, this project would cost millions of dollars more.

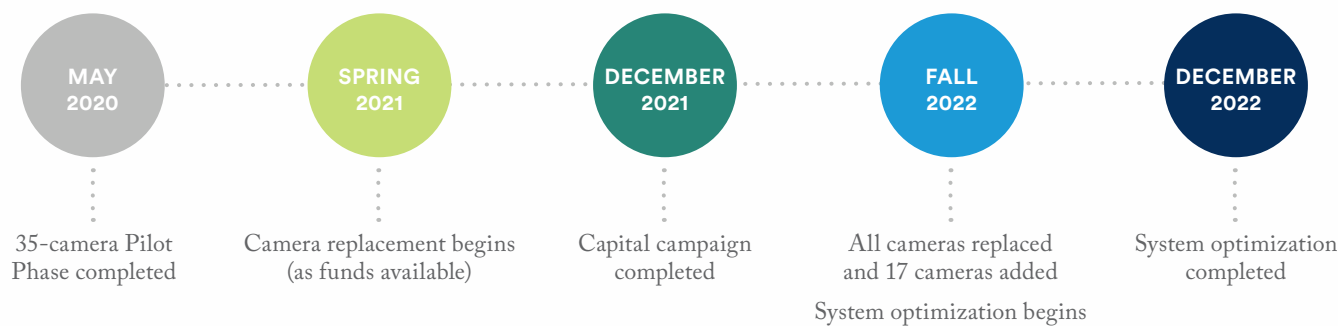
\$2 MILLION
PER YEAR

Taxpayer dollars saved by irrefutable video evidence preventing unnecessary court costs.

—Lancaster County District Attorney's Office



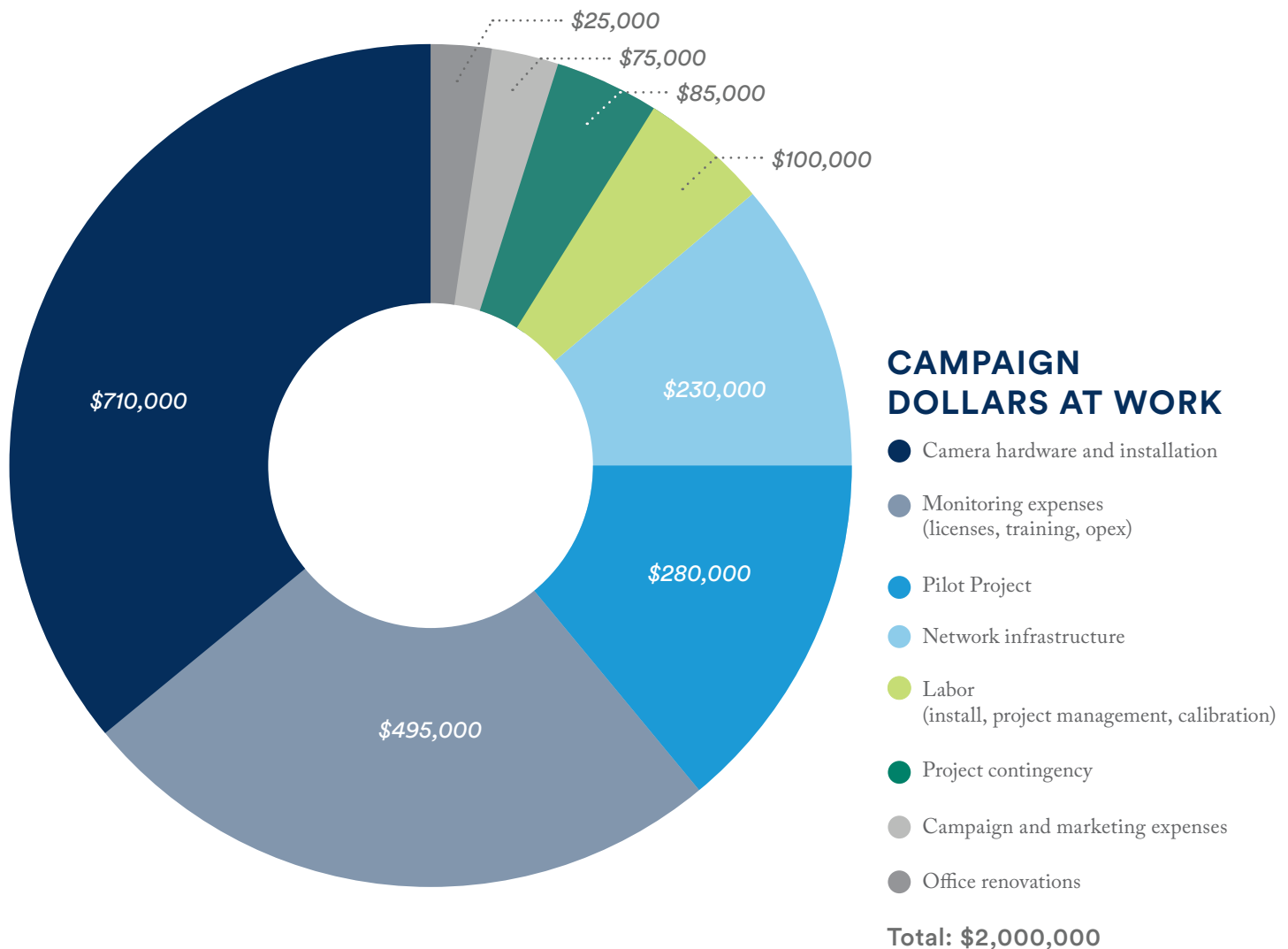
Proposed Project Schedule



In Our Hands: The Campaign for a Safer Lancaster

Upgrading Lancaster's entire public safety camera network will require an investment of \$2 million dollars. By providing the funds to replace all 170 cameras, add 17 new ones, and modernize

the technological infrastructure, this campaign represents a tangible effort to make our beloved city safer for everyone.



Potential Campaign Supporters

Everyone benefits from a safer Lancaster. The *In Our Hands Campaign* offers everyone—governments, businesses, individuals—the opportunity to be part of a community solution to a community problem.

We plan to ask all of the entities listed on the right to participate.

Eye on the Future

The Lancaster Safety Coalition's ten-year financial plan includes putting aside funds each year for camera replacement. As the cameras reach their anticipated ten-year lifespan in 2032, the Coalition can begin to make incremental changeovers, replacing a portion of the network each year instead of having to raise funds again for another complete overhaul.

City of Lancaster,
County of Lancaster,
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Lancaster City Alliance,
Large Businesses,
Small Businesses,
Foundations,
Individuals, Families,
Churches, Civic Groups,
School Organizations,
Municipal Authorities:
City Revitalization and
Improvement Zone (CRIZ),
Downtown Investment District,
Lancaster Parking Authority,
Tourism-related Organizations



In Our Hands: The Campaign for a Safer Lancaster

To raise a minimum of \$2,000,000 in current gifts and multi-year pledges* to fund new technology, install new and more safety equipment and to support ongoing and enhanced programming to ensure a safer community, Lancaster Safety

Coalition will need to secure private gift commitments in roughly the following pattern. Gifts of all sizes will be sought from individuals, families, businesses, foundations, appropriate government sources and service groups.

TABLE OF GIFTS NEEDED TO RAISE \$2,000,000

**Donors may make pledges payable over a period of one to five years.*

GIFT RANGE	NUMBER OF GIFTS	TOTAL IN RANGE	CUMULATIVE TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
\$250,000+	1	\$250,000	\$250,000	13
\$100,000 - \$249,999	3	\$300,000	\$550,000	28
\$50,000 - \$99,999	8	\$400,000	\$950,000	48
\$25,000 - 49,999	16	\$400,000	\$1,350,000	68
\$10,000 - \$24,999	30	\$300,000	\$1,650,000	83
\$5,000 - \$9,999	40	\$200,000	\$1,850,000	93
\$1,000 – \$4,999	60	\$60,000	\$1,910,000	96
\$500 – \$999	80	\$40,000	\$1,950,000	98
\$250 – 499	100	\$25,000	\$1,975,000	99
Under \$250	Many	\$25,000	\$2,000,000	100
CAMPAIGN TOTAL			\$2,000,000	

ADOPT A CAMERA

Donors of \$10,000 or more will be offered the opportunity to adopt an installed camera. They will be honored on an attractive permanent recognition panel at the LSC’s offices and on the Coalition’s website. Donors of \$1,000 or more will also be honored on the Lancaster Safety Coalition’s website.

ENSURE THE FUTURE

You can help ensure that the Lancaster Safety Coalition has the resources to upgrade the network regularly by including the Coalition in your estate plans. Many donors will choose to make a combination of outright and planned (estate) gifts to maximize their giving. Planned gifts may be able to be counted toward the campaign, depending on your specific circumstances.



A safer Lancaster for all.

Lancaster has made tremendous progress in creating a safer city. You can see it in the new construction projects downtown, and someday you'll feel it again among the bustling crowds on a First Friday.

The whole story, though, is that not every neighborhood has experienced that success. Although violent crime rates are lower than they were in 2003 when the Lancaster Safety Coalition was established, these rates increased from 2014 to 2017 (the most recent data available). As of 2017, Lancaster's violent crime rate was twice the national average.

*We cannot allow this trend to continue.
It's not the Lancaster we want.
It's in our hands to change it.*

The Lancaster Safety Coalition has proven itself a reliable, cost-effective partner in improving public safety. By funding the tools it needs, we can enable the Coalition to increase its impact on the city we love: more people protected, faster justice, more people helped in times of distress, more crimes prevented, lower crime rates. There is no better investment we can make to improve and sustain Lancaster's quality of life.

Please join us to maintain, enhance, and expand the public safety camera network integral to Lancaster's greater sense of security. It's a sure way to a safer city for all.



THE CAMPAIGN FOR A SAFER LANCASTER

**For more information, contact
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