

August 3, 2026

The Honorable Katie Wilson
Mayor of Seattle
600 Fourth Avenue, 7th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104

Re: Reactivate the Stadium District/Pioneer Square Real-Time Crime Center Cameras

Dear Mayor Wilson:

As operators, organizers, and stewards of Seattle's largest stadiums, arenas, festivals, and public gathering spaces, we host tens of millions of people in our great city every year. It goes without saying that the safety and well-being of those who attend our events and facilities are our top priority.

With this commitment in mind, we invest heavily in a range of protective measures – from individual safety plans and procedures to private security, partnerships with the Seattle Police Department, and the use of private cameras to prevent crime, collect evidence of serious criminal activity, and hold offenders accountable.

The tragic shooting and senseless loss of life at Seattle Center on July 26th came on the heels of a shooting in Capitol Hill the day before, which left three innocent bystanders injured.

These recent tragic events should serve as a warning that gun violence and gun availability pose a clear and present threat in our city. We applaud your newly announced efforts to support gun violence reduction strategies and youth-violence prevention – this is important work, and our communities will be better prepared and safer because of these investments.

The World Cup taught us that Seattle is capable of hosting world-class events successfully. However, last week's violent crimes should serve as a stark reminder that any large-scale event is vulnerable to public safety threats that may endanger human lives. Seattle police officers need every tool at their disposal to keep these events and their attendees safe.

We understand and respect that your administration paused the Real-Time Crime Center camera program pending a citywide audit of its data privacy policies, and we support that review being conducted carefully and with meaningful community input.

But the events of this week demonstrate that public safety at large-scale events needs to remain a top priority for your administration. As such, we respectfully urge you to **reactivate the 22 CCTV cameras in the Stadium District and Pioneer Square that were connected to the Seattle Police Department's Real-Time Crime Center, while the City's audit is underway. This includes safeguards mandated by the City when the policy was first adopted.**

In addition, we urge further investment in CCTV cameras in areas of the city that regularly host large-scale events, such as Seattle Center. This nexus was not evaluated in past efforts.

Seattle has an extraordinary run of major events ahead this summer and beyond. As a community, we need to do all we can to prevent gun violence while also ensuring we have the means to apprehend violent criminals.

The organizers and facilities signing this letter stand ready to assist with this request in any way necessary and welcome the opportunity to meet with you in the coming days to discuss next steps. Thank you for your attention to this urgent public safety matter.

Respectfully,



Downtown
Seattle
Association

