

ST Meeting #62 – 07/02/2024

Participants:

Jason Thomas
Mark King
Michelle Sczpanski
Johannes Himmelreich
Jason Scharf
Deputy Mayor Sharon Owens
1st Deputy Chief Shoff
Jennifer Tift

Absent

Dr. Martha Grabowski (Excused)
Bradford Morse (Excused)
Nico Diaz (Excused)
Daniel Schwarz (Excused)
Val Didamo
Chief Tim Gleeson

Agenda/Notes:

- Presentation (Renata Gerecke and Jiahao Chen at NYC Office of Technology & Innovation)
 - Helps understand where innovation is happening in City Government
 - Transparency into how government is making decisions
 - Local Law 35:
 - Reporting is updated at the end of the calendar year; report is due out at the end of March.
 - They share this information out on the Open Data Portal.
 - What's next:
 - NYC AI Action Plan
 - Expand public AI Reporting
 - Other Examples:
 - U.S. Federal Government
 - Helsinki, Finland
 - Canada Open Data Portal
 - Important to set frequency cadence for releasing information
 - Risk assessment approach

- Trying to figure out how to chunk this work up (only Renata and Jiahao doing this work for the whole city)
 - Approach:
 - Want to get residents comfortable discussing AI
 - Understand code and data
 - Algorithm
 - NYC adopted the federal definition of AI
 - Existing guidance from NIST is abstract
 - Stakeholder engagement:
 - Evaluating whether AI is a relevant tool or not
 - Some of the AI tools were involving non-human living things (germ reporting) for public health
- Flood Sensor Review
 - Syracuse University would like to install sensors to help monitor creek levels
 - Studying for these types of technologies to help facilitate critical storm sewer infrastructure on city streets
 - They are hoping to get some of this installed in the summer
 - Mak asked about the distinction of the “optical sensor/camera”
 - Jen stated that she believed it was just a sensor and did not believe that there would be any image capture or storing.
 - Deputy Mayor asked if the city would determine the locations and if the county needs to give permission
 - Jen shared that they have started to ask the city about locations for this.
 - Have asked where they might be able to mount sensors, such as on City poles, etc.
 - Deputy Mayor asked about if this would allow for real time notifications to the water department
 - Jen stated that this is part of the goal of this grant.
 - We discussed on if it meets the Definition of a Surveillance Technology
 - Chief Shoff shared that he did not think it met the definition of this
 - Jen stated that these are optical sensors and that it is the change in those characteristics
 - It is not a video capture of anything including a person, dog, or car, this would not be recorded or captured
 - It is just looking for changes in Water levels, flow of water levels.
 - Vote:
 - 7 No (does not meet the definition of a surveillance technology)
 - 1 abstain
 - 0 Yes (Meets the definition)
 - We discussed the importance of these only being optical sensors. Jen T. stated that if it contained cameras for video recording, she would inform the group so that they could discuss and vote again.
- Quick Updates
- Coming Up

- Questions

Previous Action Items:

- ✓ All completed

New Action Items:

- Schedule another Surv. Tech happy hour - [@Scharf, Jason](#)