

Public Hearing Notice and Participation Protocols  
Electronic Meeting

**TOWN OF HAMDEN, CONNECTICUT  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given of a Public Hearing to be held by the Administration Committee on Wednesday, September 8, 2021, via Zoom, <https://zoom.us/j/96032210583> (Password: Dragons) at 7:05 P.M., for the following purpose:

**Ordinance regulating facial recognition technology**

Dated: September 2, 2021

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Renta, Clerk

This meeting will be a 100% electronic meeting. The Legislative Council Chambers at Memorial Town Hall will be closed. Additional information necessary to join this meeting, and the ordinance, are available on the website of the Town of Hamden on the Legislative Council's page and/or the meeting agenda.

**TOWN OF HAMDEN  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

**ORDINANCE REGULATING FACIAL RECOGNITION TECHNOLOGY**

Presented by: Brad Macdowall

WHEREAS, the Legislative Council of the Town of Hamden finds that facial recognition poses unique and significant civil rights and civil liberties threats to the residents and visitors of the Town of Hamden; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Council finds that facial recognition technology has a history of being far less accurate in identifying the faces of women, young people, and people of color and that such inaccuracies place certain persons at an elevated risk of harmful “false positive” identifications; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Council of the Town of Hamden finds that many of the databases to which facial technology is applied are plagued by racial and other biases; and

WHEREAS, the Hamden Legislative Council finds that the public use of facial recognition can chill the exercise of constitutionality protected free speech; and

WHEREAS, the Hamden Legislative Council finds that the benefits of using facial recognition, are outweighed by its harms.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that Chapter 105 Is added to Title IX: General Regulations of the Code of Ordinances and Sections 105.01 to 102.05 are hereby adopted as set forth below.

**§105.01.        Definitions.**

- (A) “Facial Recognition” shall mean an automated or semi-automated process that assists in identifying an individual, capturing information about an individual, based on the physical characteristics of any individual’s face.
- (B) “Facial recognition system” shall mean any computer software or application that performs facial recognition.
- (C) “Hamden” shall mean any department, agency, or division of the Town of Hamden, CT.
- (D) “Hamden official” shall man any person or entity acting on behalf of the Town of Hamden, including any officer, employee, agent, contractor, subcontractor or vendor.

**§105.02.        Ban on Town Use of Facial Recognition.**

- (A) It shall be prohibited for the Town of Hamden or any Hamden official to obtain, retain, access or use:
  - (1) Any facial recognition system; or
  - (2) Any information obtained from a facial recognition systems.

**§102.03.        Enforcement.**

(A) No data collected or derived from any use of facial recognition in violation of this Ordinance and no evidence derived therefrom may be received in evidence in any hearing or other proceeding in or before any department, officer, agency, committee, board, commission or other authority under the jurisdiction of the Town of Hamden.

(B) Training. The Town will address alleged violations of this ordinance in accordance with applicable law and contractual obligations.

Adopted by the Legislative Council at its meeting held on \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Gruen  
Town Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
President  
Legislative Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kimberly Renta, Clerk  
Legislative Council

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Curt Balzano Leng

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Ordinance Number:  
Published:  
Newspaper:  
Date: