



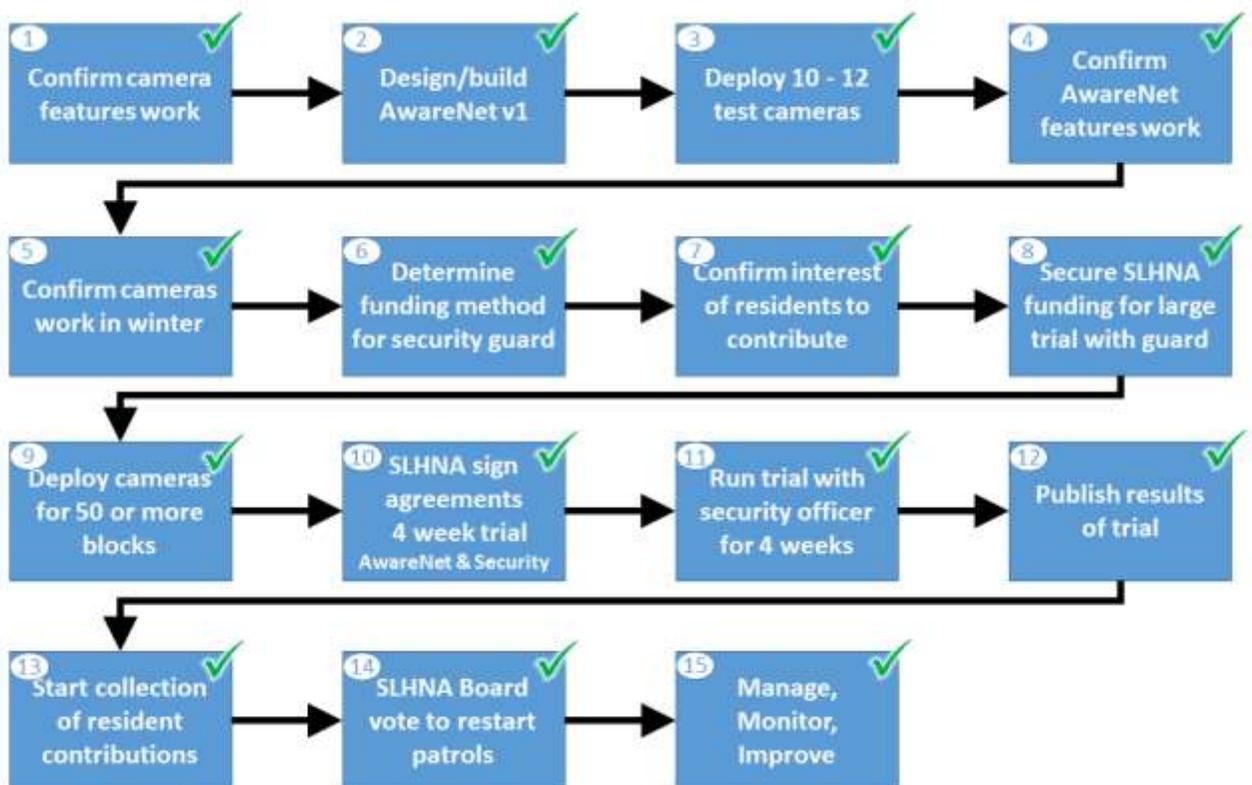
PROJECT PURPOSE

The goal of the AwareNet project is to disrupt thieves each and every night when they start operating in our neighborhood and, by consistently doing so, deter them from returning as repeat offenders.

To accomplish the goal, we plan to deploy a network of cameras owned and operated by the residents of the neighborhood and hire a private security guard to respond, in real time, to automatic alerts from the cameras.

Details about AwareNet are available at www.awarenet.us.

Below is a diagram of high-level steps for the project.





PROJECT HISTORY / BACKGROUND

- **2018**
 - **Property crime was rising in St. Louis Hills and nearby neighborhoods.**
 - **The SLHNA Safety Committee tries to establish a neighborhood watch program.**
 - **It failed because it was too difficult to get volunteers to patrol the streets between 10pm and 5am and those that did volunteer were rarely in the right place at the right time to disrupt criminal activity.**
 - **We considered using cameras to augment the patrols but the necessary cameras were expensive and generally produced too many false alerts (e.g. cars, small animals, trees/bushes blown by the wind, etc.).**
- **2019 - 2020**
 - **Reports of property crime continue to increase. Thieves walking the streets and alleys looking for unlocked vehicles, unlocked garages, and anything they can steal.**
- **April 2021**
 - **Reolink introduces the Argus 3 Pro; the first residential, battery-powered, solar-charged, WiFi-connected camera to have artificial intelligence (AI) to differentiate motion that is a person, a vehicle or something else.**



- **May – June 2021**
 - By testing two of the Reolink Argus 3 Pro cameras, I confirm they can reliably detect people walking the street and sidewalk at night-time, so long as the person is no further than 20-25 feet from the camera.
 - One of the cameras captures video of two thieves walking my street checking for unlocked vehicles.
 - Board Bill 61 introduced by Alderman Tom Oldenburg to make it explicitly unlawful for an individual to lift handles on vehicle doors.
- **July 2021**
 - Development begins for software to monitor automatic alerts from the Reolink security cameras and automatically send text message alerts to a designated smartphone.
 - The goal is to create a neighborhood watch program that allows safety volunteers to “patrol” the neighborhood without leaving their house.
 - The software is named AwareNet (www.awarenet.us).
 - Met with Captain Marks (District 2, St Louis City Police). Although the police are not allowed to endorse any particular product, Captain Marks is very supportive of residential security cameras and has seen significant benefit from video provided by residents. She had a very positive reaction to the potential benefits of the project we described.



- **August 2021**
 - Testing of AwareNet continues with additional and different model cameras.
 - The insurance underwriter for the neighborhood association says that using volunteers to monitor the AwareNet alerts is not acceptable.
 - We start reviewing options for using paid private security to monitor the AwareNet Alerts.
- **September 2021**
 - Testing of AwareNet continues.
 - The AwareNet project is first announced publicly on NextDoor (<https://nextdoor.com/p/gLdBQmFfGk7p>).
 - The AwareNet project is presented & discussed at the SLHNA general meeting 9/23/21 (<https://stlhills.com/event/general-meeting>).
- **October 2021**
 - Testing of AwareNet continues.
 - The AwareNet project is the subject of an article in the fall SLHNA newsletter (<https://stlhills.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/SLHNA-October2021.pdf>)
 - Board Bill 61 is passed and becomes ordinance 71395 with effective date 10/21/21.
- **November 2021 – January 2022**
 - Testing of AwareNet continues.
 - Confirmed cameras and AwareNet continue to operate as expected during winter weather.



- **February 2022**
 - Survey on NextDoor indicates strong support among SLH residents for voluntary contributions to pay for a private security guard patrolling every night (details below).
 - SLHNA Board votes to support next steps for the project:
 1. Deploy AwareNet-compatible cameras to 50 blocks in SLH (bought, owned, and operated by residents).
 2. Run a 4 week test (trial) of the project with a private security guard patrolling every night between 10pm and 6am (paid for by the SLHNA).
- **March 2022**
 - Engage SLH residents to buy and install cameras on a minimum of 50 blocks.
- **April-July 2022**
 - Meet and greet SLH residents to discuss project and demonstrate cameras.
 - Install cameras for residents unable to do installation.
 - Help residents configure cameras to work with AwareNet.
 - Monitor camera alerts and optimize camera configurations.
- **July-August 2022**
 - Revise plan – use armed patrol person instead of unarmed.
 - Identify options for security service company
 - Reached initial goal of 50 blocks with at least one camera.
 - Revise budget for secondary-duty police at \$80/hour for 5 hours each night.



- **September-November 2022**
 - Finalize service agreements with Campbell Security and AwareNet.
 - Continue to install additional cameras.
- **November 14th, 2022**
 - Start 4 week test/trial with security officer patrolling the neighborhood and reviewing/responding in real-time to the automatic alerts sent from cameras throughout the neighborhood.
- **December 16th, 2022**
 - End 4 week test/trial with security officer.
 - Officers made two arrests, responded to several suspicious incidents.
 - The AwareNet cameras directly contributed to the success of disrupting and deterring criminal activity.
 - Details at <https://stlhills.com/safety/SLH-Four-Week-Test.pdf>
- **December 29th, 2022**
 - Start collecting donations from all households in St Louis Hills.
- **March 1st, 2023**
 - Resume private-duty police officer patrols, three nights each week.
 - Continue collecting donations for 2023.



NextDoor Survey Results

What is neighborhood safety and security worth? Last year, our neighborhood, like all neighborhoods in the city (and many in the county), was plagued with thieves roaming our streets and alleys every night looking for anything they could steal. The frequency has dropped during the winter, but when warmer weather returns it will likely be as bad or worse than last year.

A private security guard to patrol our neighborhood costs a minimum of \$35 per hour.

If having a security guard on duty every night from 10pm to 6am was proven to stop thieves before they start (deterrence), or minutes after they start (disruption), what voluntary contribution would your household be willing to make for a private security guard dedicated to the St Louis Hills neighborhood?

150 Votes





Budget for Armed Secondary-Duty Security Guard

Neighborhood Stats	
Single-Family Homes	1,850
Condo Units	140
Apartment Units	1,437
Single-Family plus Condos	1,990
Security Guard	
Hourly Rate	80
Hours per Day	5
Cost Per Day	400
Base Cost Per Year	146,000
Single Holiday Premium	200
Number of Holidays	11
Annual Holiday Premium	2,200
Total Cost Per Year (Base + Premium)	148,200
PayPal Surcharge	
2.9% of Amount	4,298
\$0.30 per transaction	7,164
Maximum Total Surcharge	11,462
Total Funding Minimum Per Year	159,662
Average Monthly Funding	13,305

Participation from apartments may be very low so leave them out of the calculations until we know otherwise.



ST. LOUIS HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY COMMITTEE



NEIGHBORS WORKING TOGETHER

Single-Family plus Condo Participation	Household Contribution Per Month				
	\$5	\$10	\$15	\$20	\$25
25%	\$29,850	\$59,700	\$89,550	\$119,400	\$149,250
26%	\$31,044	\$62,088	\$93,132	\$124,176	\$155,220
27%	\$32,238	\$64,476	\$96,714	\$128,952	\$161,190
28%	\$33,432	\$66,864	\$100,296	\$133,728	\$167,160
29%	\$34,626	\$69,252	\$103,878	\$138,504	\$173,130
30%	\$35,820	\$71,640	\$107,460	\$143,280	\$179,100
31%	\$37,014	\$74,028	\$111,042	\$148,056	\$185,070
32%	\$38,208	\$76,416	\$114,624	\$152,832	\$191,040
33%	\$39,402	\$78,804	\$118,206	\$157,608	\$197,010
34%	\$40,596	\$81,192	\$121,788	\$162,384	\$202,980
35%	\$41,790	\$83,580	\$125,370	\$167,160	\$208,950
36%	\$42,984	\$85,968	\$128,952	\$171,936	\$214,920
37%	\$44,178	\$88,356	\$132,534	\$176,712	\$220,890
38%	\$45,372	\$90,744	\$136,116	\$181,488	\$226,860
39%	\$46,566	\$93,132	\$139,698	\$186,264	\$232,830
40%	\$47,760	\$95,520	\$143,280	\$191,040	\$238,800
41%	\$48,954	\$97,908	\$146,862	\$195,816	\$244,770
42%	\$50,148	\$100,296	\$150,444	\$200,592	\$250,740
43%	\$51,342	\$102,684	\$154,026	\$205,368	\$256,710
44%	\$52,536	\$105,072	\$157,608	\$210,144	\$262,680
45%	\$53,730	\$107,460	\$161,190	\$214,920	\$268,650
46%	\$54,924	\$109,848	\$164,772	\$219,696	\$274,620
47%	\$56,118	\$112,236	\$168,354	\$224,472	\$280,590
48%	\$57,312	\$114,624	\$171,936	\$229,248	\$286,560
49%	\$58,506	\$117,012	\$175,518	\$234,024	\$292,530
50%	\$59,700	\$119,400	\$179,100	\$238,800	\$298,500
51%	\$60,894	\$121,788	\$182,682	\$243,576	\$304,470
52%	\$62,088	\$124,176	\$186,264	\$248,352	\$310,440
53%	\$63,282	\$126,564	\$189,846	\$253,128	\$316,410
54%	\$64,476	\$128,952	\$193,428	\$257,904	\$322,380
55%	\$65,670	\$131,340	\$197,010	\$262,680	\$328,350
56%	\$66,864	\$133,728	\$200,592	\$267,456	\$334,320
57%	\$68,058	\$136,116	\$204,174	\$272,232	\$340,290
58%	\$69,252	\$138,504	\$207,756	\$277,008	\$346,260
59%	\$70,446	\$140,892	\$211,338	\$281,784	\$352,230
60%	\$71,640	\$143,280	\$214,920	\$286,560	\$358,200
61%	\$72,834	\$145,668	\$218,502	\$291,336	\$364,170
62%	\$74,028	\$148,056	\$222,084	\$296,112	\$370,140
63%	\$75,222	\$150,444	\$225,666	\$300,888	\$376,110
64%	\$76,416	\$152,832	\$229,248	\$305,664	\$382,080
65%	\$77,610	\$155,220	\$232,830	\$310,440	\$388,050
66%	\$78,804	\$157,608	\$236,412	\$315,216	\$394,020
67%	\$79,998	\$159,996	\$239,994	\$319,992	\$399,990
68%	\$81,192	\$162,384	\$243,576	\$324,768	\$405,960