



2020 Privacy Impact Assessment

# Short-Term Rental Project

Finance and Administrative Services Department

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## Privacy Impact Assessment Overview

### What is a privacy impact assessment?

A Privacy Impact Assessment (“PIA”) is a method for collecting and documenting detailed information collected in order to conduct an in-depth privacy review of a program or project. It asks questions about the collection, use, sharing, security and access controls for data that is gathered using a technology or program. It also requests information about policies, training and documentation that govern use of the technology. The PIA responses are used to determine privacy risks associated with a project and mitigations that may reduce some or all of those risks. In the interests of transparency about data collection and management, the City of Seattle has committed to publishing all PIAs on an outward facing website for public access.

### When is a privacy impact assessment required?

A PIA may be required in two circumstances.

- The first is when a project, technology, or other review has been flagged as having a high privacy risk.
- The second is when a technology is required to complete the Surveillance Impact Report process. This is one deliverable that comprises the report.

### How to complete this document?

As department staff complete the document, they should keep the following in mind.

- Responses to questions should be in the text or check boxes only, all other information (questions, descriptions, etc.) should **NOT** be edited by the department staff completing this document.
- All content in this report will be available externally to the public. With this in mind, avoid using acronyms, slang, or other terms which may not be well-known to external audiences. Additionally, responses should be written using principally non-technical language to ensure they are accessible to audiences unfamiliar with the topic.

## 1.0 Abstract

### 1.1 Please provide a brief description (one paragraph) of the purpose and proposed use of the project/technology.

The Short-Term Rental (STR) project will implement an application within the Accela enterprise platform to improve administration of programs in the Regulatory Compliance and Consumer Protection (RCCP) division of FAS. STR is the first of several regulatory licenses which are intended to be deployed on Accela. Activities included for the entire breadth of RCCP's Accela use include license applications/renewals, invoicing, fee collection, inspections, code enforcement and case management. STR's first release focused on the application and issuance of STR platform and operator licenses. This release occurred on 1/2/2019 as required by the ordinance. The second release, which incorporates enforcement and renewals for STR occurred in July 2020.

### 1.2 Explain the reason the project/technology is being created or updated and why the PIA is required.

Launching STR through the Accela platform, and subsequently other regulatory license types, will both eliminate aging, non-integrated systems with a single platform for regulatory information and activities including license applications/renewals, invoicing, fee collection, inspections, code enforcement and case management. Deploying STR and future licenses through Accela will improve administration of regulatory programs and will include collection and storage of personal information associated with regulatory licensing and case management.

## 2.0 Project / Technology Overview

Provide an overview of the project or technology. The overview gives the context and background necessary to understand the purpose, mission and justification for the project / technology proposed

### 2.1 Describe the benefits of the project/technology.

The project is deploying licensing, enforcement and reporting functions for a new ordinance adopted by the City regarding short-term rental properties. As the first regulatory license to be deployed on the Accela platform, the STR project will lay the groundwork for deployment of additional regulatory licenses. As a result, this project begins the process of replacing multiple legacy systems built on platforms that are no longer supported. The new system will create efficiencies for regulatory administration and compliance processes for both STR licensing and other regulatory licenses when deployed.

### 2.2 Provide any data or research demonstrating anticipated benefits.

No research was conducted in support of the STR effort. The City has adopted Accela as an enterprise standard for licensing and permitting business functions (among others). As such, STR needs to be deployed on the Accela platform.

### 2.3 Describe the technology involved.

STR will be built within the existing Accela enterprise platform on the city's network.

### 2.3 Describe how the project or use of technology relates to the department's mission.

This project is part of the citywide permit system integration initiative. It also supports FAS priorities of providing excellent customer service, increasing operational efficiency, and reducing risk.

### 2.6 Who will be involved with the deployment and use of the project / technology?

The system will be developed and deployed with involvement by a third-party system integrator, Avocette, the city's RCCP division in FAS, and the Seattle Information Technology Department. The technology will be used by RCCP and their regulatory customers.

## 3.0 Use Governance

Provide an outline of any rules that will govern the use of the project / technology. Please note: non-City entities are bound by restrictions specified in the Surveillance Ordinance and Privacy Principles and must provide written procedures for how the entity will comply with any restrictions identified.

### 3.1 Describe the processes that are required prior to each use, or access to/ of the project / technology, such as a notification, or check-in, check-out of equipment.

All internal and public users will be required to have a username and secure password that will be used to log in to the system for each use. Public users are notified of public disclosure requirements and the city's privacy principles, statement and policy and are required to accept the terms prior to creating an online account.

### **3.2 List the legal standards or conditions, if any, that must be met before the project / technology is used.**

The City adopted [SMC 6.600](#) – Short-Term Rentals in December of 2017. The ordinance represents the business requirements which must be met for RCCP and its customers.

### **3.3 Describe the policies and training required of all personnel operating the project / technology, and who has access to ensure compliance with use and management policies.**

System training, including use and security, will be provided and required for all end users prior to go-live. Attendance in training will be documented. Supervisors and managers will have appropriate security permissions to report on and monitor staff usage of the system. System training content will be primarily developed by the project team, and content regarding use and management of the data will be developed in partnership with Seattle IT and business management staff. Staff supervisors will maintain training attendance records.

## **4.0 Data Collection and Use**

Provide information about the policies and practices around the collection and use of the data collected.

### **4.1 Provide details about what information is being collected from sources other than an individual, including other IT systems, systems of record, commercial data aggregators, publicly available data and/or other city departments.**

The Seattle License Information Management system (SLIM) will be used to verify business license numbers and expiration date (provided by customer).

The City's Motorola CSR will be used to import customer complaints.

The STR application will also be the centralized location for monthly reporting required of the platforms. Monthly reporting from the platforms will contain Seattle STR license numbers and URLs of STR units listed during the previous month.

### **4.2 What measures are in place to minimize inadvertent or improper collection of data?**

System interfaces will be built to either verify or import only the data needed to support licensing/permitting requirements. The data elements collected were reviewed by City stakeholders and the Privacy Office. Additional data will be not accessible.

### **4.3 How and when will the project / technology be deployed or used? By whom? Who will determine when the project / technology is deployed and used?**

The first release of the project went live on January 2, 2019. A second release is scheduled for July 2020. The system and will be deployed and supported by the Seattle Information Technology department. It will be used by RCCP staff to administer and enforce compliance within the STR regulatory program.

### **4.4 How often will the technology be in operation?**

The technology will be in operation seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day, excluding maintenance windows.

#### 4.5 What is the permanence of the installation? Is it installed permanently or temporarily?

This is a permanent installation.

#### 4.6 Is a physical object collecting data or images, visible to the public? What are the markings to indicate that it is in use? What signage is used to determine department ownership and contact information?

Not applicable.

#### 4.7 How will data that is collected be accessed and by whom?

Data will be accessed within the system by regulatory staff (director, managers, supervisors, strategic advisors, customer service representatives, cashiers, inspectors, accounting analysts) who are involved in business processes that utilize collected data, e.g. approving and issuing licenses, scheduling and resulting inspections, conducting field inspections and enforcement. Security roles and permissions will be built into the system to limit access to sensitive data. FAS (the business) determine who has what access to the system. The parties that authorize access are specified in the Accela PL-2 Security Plan.

##### **Selected sections of the Accela PL-2 Security Plan:**

*Internal Users:* Since users authenticate with Active Directory (AD) the AD rules and policies around credential renewal and password updates are controlled by the AD settings. Decisions on access revoking and deleting credentials come from the business or HR in the case of departing employees. If a person's AD account is disabled, they would not be able to authenticate, and this would prevent them from accessing Accela.

*External Users:* To ensure user privacy, Accela provides a mechanism that prevents external users from accessing data and records until the user identification is verified with government identification. Once this has been completed, the user may not be added to another account or have records claimed by other users. After this verification is complete, a user may be matched to their historical records within the system.

#### 4.8 If operated or used by another entity on behalf of the City, provide details about access, and applicable protocols. Please link memorandums of agreement, contracts, etc. that are applicable.

Not applicable.

#### 4.9 What are acceptable reasons for access to the equipment and/or data collected?

Access to data within the system will be given to regulatory staff (director, managers, supervisors, strategic advisors, customer service representatives, cashiers, inspectors, accounting analysts) who are directly involved in business processes that utilize the collected data. This may include workflow processing, administration, enforcement, or performance metrics/reporting. User groups within the system are anticipated to include the following (additional roles may be created to provide additional security for specific functions):

User Role	Description	Criteria for Access
Admin	Staff with administrative rights to configure the software and manage user roles in the system	Must be an IT staff member with advanced system training
Supervisor	Staff who manage/supervise staff who perform daily work in Accela; can provide approvals, allow exceptions to rules, and have access to management metrics and reporting	Must be RCCP staff member in a supervisory or management role
Super User	Person working in the back office with ability to make minor, limited configuration changes and create ad-hoc reports	Must be RCCP staff member with advanced system training
General User	Typical person working in the back office or customer service role	Must be RCCP staff member
Payment	Internal staff performing payment functions	Must be City staff who is responsible for processing payments
Read Only	Person who can view, but not edit any data	Must be City staff with demonstrated business need to view data
Public User	Person with customer portal account who can apply, make payments and view account information online	Must create a secure account with a unique user name and email address

**4.10 What safeguards are in place, for protecting data from unauthorized access (encryption, access control mechanisms, etc.) and to provide an audit trail (viewer logging, modification logging, etc.)?**

Access to the system will require a secure username and password. Sensitive data will only be accessible for specific user roles and user activities within the system will be logged and accessible via audit reports. Accela has system activity audit logs that are accessible by ITD system admin staff.



## 5.0 Data Storage, Retention and Deletion

### 5.1 How will data be securely stored?

The data will be stored within the Accela enterprise database that is hosted on the City's network. Documents will be stored in the Oracle document management system on the City's network, which is integrated with Accela.

### 5.2 How will the owner allow for departmental and other entities, to audit for compliance with legal deletion requirements?

Record retention reports will be available to monitor and audit data retention requirements. Deletion is not automated within the system; however, purging tools can be used to delete identified data. The record retention period for regulatory license and violations is 6 years.

### 5.3 What measures will be used to destroy improperly collected data?

Improperly collected data will be purged within the system and database. This can be done using purging tools within the system.

### 5.4 Which specific departmental unit or individual is responsible for ensuring compliance with data retention requirements?

The RCCP division in FAS is responsible for compliance with data retention. An Admin Support Analyst is currently responsible for this body of work.

## 6.0 Data Sharing and Accuracy

### 6.1 Which entity or entities inside and external to the City will be data sharing partners?

Data will be shared within FAS as needed to conduct business. Requests by other business units, will be evaluated as received to ensure data privacy concerns are addressed prior to sharing STR data.

### 6.2 Why is data sharing necessary?

Data sharing within FAS is needed to ensure effective business operations. Sharing data with other departments may be needed to support their business needs regarding regulatory compliance activities by specific owners or at specific addresses.

### 6.3 Are there any restrictions on non-City data use?

Yes  No

6.3.1 If you answered Yes, provide a copy of the department's procedures and policies for ensuring compliance with these restrictions.

NA

### 6.4 How does the project/technology review and approve information sharing agreements, memorandums of understanding, new uses of the information, new access to the system by organizations within City of Seattle and outside agencies?

External parties are not expected to require data be shared with them throughout this project. Access to the system by internal staff are made via standard service hub tickets requesting access. Access is then granted by system administrators restricting users to the modules and roles for which their use is required.

6.4.1 Please describe the process for reviewing and updating data sharing agreements.

Data sharing agreements are not part of the scope of this project.

### 6.5 Explain how the project/technology checks the accuracy of the information collected. If accuracy is not checked, please explain why.

Data collected (e.g. driver's license information, business license) is verified by integration with selected systems. In addition, unit addresses being licensed are validated by the City's GIS to ensure accuracy. Additional audits/accuracy checks may be conducted by back-office regulatory staff through reporting or manual review.

External public users (through the services portal) and internal staff create records in Accela. Accela provides amendment functionality for changes to records by both staff and external users. All record changes are tracked within the system.

## **6.6 Describe any procedures that allow individuals to access their information and correct inaccurate or erroneous information.**

Customers can access account information through the secure [Seattle Services Portal](#) and submit corrections and/or changes for some information online, e.g. contact information. Corrections to submitted applications may also be available online by submitting an amendment.

If the information is not available for editing online or if customers prefer not to make changes online, customers can go to the Regulatory Compliance and Consumer Protection customer service office at the Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 Fifth Ave, Floor 42, to have corrections processed.

## 7.0 Legal Obligations, Risks and Compliance

### 7.1 What specific legal authorities and/or agreements permit and define the collection of information by the project/technology?

[SMC 6.600](#) – Short-Term Rentals

### 7.2 Describe what privacy training is provided to users either generally or specifically relevant to the project/technology.

All internal users have or will take the City of Seattle privacy training prior to using the system. Privacy/security training specific to the project and data collected will be included in system end user training. Payment Card Industry (PCI) training is also required for users who are involved in payment card processing.

### 7.3 Given the specific data elements collected, describe the privacy risks identified and for each risk, explain how it was mitigated. Specific risks may be inherent in the sources or methods of collection, or the quality or quantity of information included.

The STR application will require the address of the applicant/licensee. In addition, the licensee is required to submit their business license. Users will be able to view their own data.

### 7.4 Is there any aspect of the project/technology that might cause concern by giving the appearance to the public of privacy intrusion or misuse of personal information?

No.

## 8.0 Monitoring and Enforcement

### 8.1 Describe how the project/technology maintains a record of any disclosures outside of the department.

Public Records Act disclosures are tracked within GovQA, the City's tool for handling public records requests. Any other data extracts would be tracked through Accela audit tools and Outlook records.

### 8.2 What auditing measures are in place to safeguard the information, and policies that pertain to them, as well as who has access to the audit data? Explain whether the project/technology conducts self-audits, third party audits or reviews.

Logging of all user activity within the system, auditing reports, and self-audits will be performed. See 4.10 for more information. Beyond any audits that may be required by Council or the Mayor's Office, there is an annual Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards (PCI DSS) audit.

The technology will not complete any other self-audits, but all information will be subject to the [Public Records Act RCW 42.56](#).