



## Surveillance cameras to watch north Minneapolis



**Video**

At Cub Foods in north Minneapolis, you can buy groceries and have your picture taken.

"They're digital cameras and what that means is the quality of the film is just superb," Cub Foods Store Director, Ed Anderson says.

Cub Foods has a sophisticated security system with 33 cameras covering every inch of the store, inside and out.

"When people come into this store and this area, they feel safe. They know somebody is watching out for them," Anderson says.

Cub has the most surveillance cameras of any business on West Broadway. They've helped catch panhandlers, thieves, and drug dealers. Now Cub's system will soon be connected to dozens of new police cameras coming to north Minneapolis.

On Friday, the city council approved 50 surveillance cameras for the north side. They'll cover West Broadway to Lowry - and Penn to Lyndale - a kind of visual box - watching who comes, who goes, and who's committing crimes in one of the city's most dangerous neighborhoods.

Monitored at the 4th precinct, the cameras will work as they have in downtown and south Minneapolis. They'll be connected to light poles, placed on buildings and hooked up to cameras already there.

"The citizens in that area have reported that their lives have changed and we anticipate an even superior improvement in north Minneapolis because of our box that we're creating around this area," says Minneapolis Councilman Don Samuels.

"This is not the end all be all, but it is a very important piece in giving us the technology that we need to combat crime in North Minneapolis," says Ed Anderson.

The new camera system will cost just under one million dollars.

It should be up and running by the summer.

And the cameras will also work with the Shot Spotter in north Minneapolis, which is technology that detects gun shots.

Also on Friday, the Minneapolis city council made a step to wipe out a growing graffiti problem.

A new ordinance was passed, that requires stores to keep spray paint, paint sticks or broad-tipped markers in back rooms or storage areas.

If not, the spray paint has to be in full view of employees at all times.

Stores will also be required to put up signs, asking anyone who wants to buy spray paint for identification.



By Trisha Volpe, KARE 11 News

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