

Fall 2026

Cohasset Citizen's Petition

Common Sense Guardrails for Surveillance Technology to Protect Cohasset

A proposed bylaw for transparency and oversight



Democratic Oversight

Requires upfront review of technology's costs, benefits, and data protection standards for approval



Data Governance

Safeguards sensitive personal data with agency and vendor data sharing and retention limits



Empowering Residents

Mandates public disclosures & multiple opportunities for public testimony before a Select Board vote



Accountability Monitoring

Demands routine public reporting on system usage, impact by crime category, audit records, and policy compliance

Why This Matters



Protects Our Data from Big Tech

Sets strict data governance guardrails for what companies can do with Cohasset's data



Long-term Solution to AI-Technology

Establishes a democratic oversight process to keep pace with evolving technology--unlike a one-time ban on a certain technology or vendor



Puts Citizens in the Decision-Making Seat

Ensures residents have a direct voice in determinations about surveillance tech use



ACLU
Massachusetts

This bylaw was drafted in accordance with the ACLU-MA to implement the model ordinance

Community Control Over Police Surveillance (CCOPS)

for a transparent, collaborative, and informed vetting process for surveillance technology (like Flock Safety license plate readers)

MONDAY

OCTOBER 26

Special Town Meeting

vote

For more information:



@SurveillanceOversight



investincohasset.org/surveillance



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IN-PERSON VOTING ONLY

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

OCTOBER 26

Cohasset Middle/High School
7 PM - Late

Voter Registration or Status Check:
www.sec.state.ma.us/

Childcare 5+ years:
Cohasset Recreation Commission

A conversation with the **ACLU**
Massachusetts

YOU'RE UNDER SURVEILLANCE

**HOW DEMOCRATIC OVERSIGHT
CAN SAFEGUARD CIVIL LIBERTIES**

The ACLU's Technology for Privacy Policy Counsel, Gideon Epstein, will join us for a conversation to discuss the Citizen's Petition ahead of the October 26, 2026, Special Town Meeting. Epstein's work focuses on the intersection of civil liberties, surveillance, artificial intelligence, and data privacy.

DATE :

**Oct 15,
2026**

TIME :

**6:00
Pm**

**COHASSET LIBRARY
35 RIPLEY RD.
AND ON ZOOM**



ZOOM LINK

