

New York to adopt London-style security

by UPI

NEW YORK - New York is set to become the first city in the United States to have a London-style surveillance system.

Called the Lower Manhattan Security Initiative, more than 100 cameras will be installed by the end of this year to monitor cars moving through lower Manhattan, The New York Times reported Monday.

Officials say the initiative is patterned after the extensive web of cameras and roadblocks in London that are designed to thwart terrorists or identify them should an attack occur.

If the program is fully financed, The Times said it will include 3,000 public and private security cameras below Canal Street as well as a center staffed by police and private security officers.

"This area is very critical to the economic lifeblood of this nation," New York police commissioner Raymond Kelly told the Times. "We want to make it less vulnerable."

Kelly said his department has obtained \$25 million toward the estimated \$90 million cost of the program with \$15 million coming from Homeland Security grants.

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