



Regular Meeting

AGENDA ITEM REPORT

- Meeting:** Regular Meeting - Sep 15 2020
- Title:** Lease of Automated License Plate Readers (ALPR) from Flock Group Inc.
- Presented By:** John Curley, Chief of Police
- Recommendation:**
1. Approve the 1-year lease of twenty (20) Automated License Plate Reader Cameras from Flock Group Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$55,000 based on the sole source purchasing process noted in CMC Section 2.20.080 (b)(1) - Sole Source Purchases; and
 2. Approve Resolution CC 2020-81 increasing the police department 2020-21 budget by \$30,005 to provide the remaining funds needed to lease the FLOCK camera system.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY / BACKGROUND:

Auto theft is Covina's fastest-growing Part I crime with an increase of over 16% compared to the same time last year. More than 100 vehicles have been reported stolen this year, 20 in August alone. The Taskforce for Regional Autotheft Prevention (TRAP) estimates that \$1 billion worth of vehicles are stolen each year in Los Angeles County.

Auto theft not only deprives owners of the use of their vehicles but also provides criminals with a means to commit more crimes in a vehicle not belonging to them. For this reason, gang-related crimes are often committed with the use of stolen automobiles. Focusing proactive enforcement efforts on auto-theft often uncovers other criminal activity and prevents other serious crimes.

Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) technology has been used by police agencies to locate stolen vehicles and solve other crimes where an automobile has been used. ALPR technology has continued to evolve and become less cost-prohibitive. Traditional ALPR systems included expensive fixed camera locations or mobile devices mounted in patrol cars. Covina PD has deployed mobile ALPRs in the past; however, these devices have reached their end of life and are no longer in service.

DISCUSSION:

The Flock Safety ALPR System is a deployment of cameras throughout an area to provide greater coverage and more detailed information for law enforcement. The Flock lease proposed here would include 20 cameras which can be spread throughout the City in high crime areas. Flock's cameras capture date, time, location, license plate (state, partial, paper, and no plate), vehicle details (type and color), as well as objects (bicycle, animals, and people).

Flock Safety presented staff with a desirable approach to deploying ALPR cameras throughout the community. Unlike other fixed or mobile ALPR devices, the Flock system provides the ability to cover more area of the city with system maintenance provided by the vendor rather than City staff. The Flock program is an all-inclusive model for deploying the APLR cameras. Flock Safety is the sole manufacturer and developer of the Flock Safety Camera. There are several other differences between Flock and other ALPR companies. Most notably they are the only manufacturer and service provider that leases ALPR services. Others require the city to purchase equipment.

The key benefits of Flock are that they charge an annual flat rate lease per camera of \$2,500, which is wireless, free of infrastructure setup, and has the option for solar or direct power. They also include a two-year warranty, Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) compliant cloud-based hosting, unlimited user licenses, ongoing software enhancements, camera setup, mounting, shipping, handling, and a cellular connection. The Flock lease program prevents the City from being burdened with maintaining costly equipment at the end of the agreement, which could require replacement.

Other local communities including Azusa, San Dimas, San Marino, Ontario, and Redlands have chosen the Flock system.

FISCAL IMPACT:

13826.4(b)(1) of the California Penal Code authorizes use of Supplemental Local Law Enforcement Funding for enhanced law enforcement efforts toward increased efforts to apprehend, prosecute, and convict violent “hard core” gang members. Police staff believe there is a nexus to the FLOCK strategy as it will increase efforts in this area and at the same time increase the clearance rate of reported crimes which are targeted as gang-related. On March 17, 2020, City Council approved \$24,995 (2246 1000 51005 for a one-year agreement with Elucd Inc. (CC12); however police department staff requests these monies be redirected to the FLOCK Camera system. The remaining balance of (\$30,005) will come from The Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Account (SLESA) Fund 22461110-54420 (Supp Law-Crime Prevention – Tactical Equipment) .

CEQA (CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT):

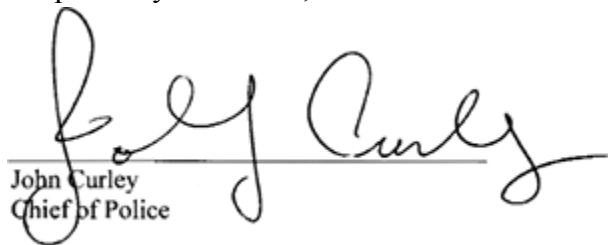
None.

ATTACHMENTS:

[Attachment A - Sole Source](#)

[Attachment B - Resolution CC 2020-81 Flock](#)

Respectfully submitted,



John Curley
Chief of Police

flock safety

Sole Source Letter for Flock Safety ALPR Cameras and Solution

Flock Safety is the sole manufacturer and developer of the Flock Safety ALPR Camera. Flock Safety is also the sole provider of the comprehensive monitoring, processing, and machine vision services which integrate with the Flock Safety ALPR Camera.

The Flock Safety ALPR camera is the only Law Enforcement Grade ALPR System to offer the following combination of features:

- Machine vision to analyze vehicle license plate, state recognition, vehicle color, vehicle type, and vehicle make
- Machine vision to capture and identify characteristics of vehicles with a paper license plates and vehicles with the absence of a license plate
- Ability to capture two (2) lanes of traffic simultaneously with a single camera from a vertical mass
- Wireless deployment of license plate reading cameras with integrated cellular communication weighing less than 5lbs and able to be powered solely by a solar panel of 60W or less
- Ability to capture and process up to 30,000 vehicles per day with a single camera powered exclusively by solar power
- On device machine processing to limit LTE bandwidth consumption
- Cloud storage of footage
- Web based footage retrieval tool with filtering capabilities such as vehicle color, vehicle type, vehicle manufacturer, partial or full license plate, state of license plate, and object detection
- Privacy controls to enable certain vehicles to “opt-out” of being captured on film
- Performance monitoring software to predict potential failures, obstructions, tilts, and other critical or minor issues
- Covert industrial design for minimizing visual pollution

Thank you,



Garrett Langley
CEO, Flock Safety

RESOLUTION CC 2020-81

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COVINA,
CALIFORNIA, INCREASING THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FISCAL
YEAR 2020-21 BUDGET BY \$30,005 FOR LEASE OF AUTOMATED
LICENCE PLATE READER CAMERAS**

WHEREAS, the City of Covina is a municipal corporation duly organized and existing pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of California ("City"); and

WHEREAS, the reallocation of appropriations may be made by the City Manager, amendments (increases/decreases) to the Budget shall be by approval and Resolution of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City of Covina Police Department would like to lease twenty (20) Automated License Plate Reader Cameras from Flock Group Inc in the not-to-exceed amount of \$55,000 for the first year; and

WHEREAS, \$24,995 in funding has been previously appropriated; and

WHEREAS, the remaining \$30,005 of the lease cost shall be appropriated from the Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Account (2246) fund balance and will increase the police department FY 2020-21 budget by the same amount.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COVINA,
CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:**

SECTION 1. Amend the fiscal year 2020-2021 Police Department Budget as follows:

Appropriation Account: 2246-1110-54420 \$30,005

SECTION 2. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this resolution and shall enter the same in the Book of Original Resolutions.

APPROVED and **PASSED** this 15th day of September, 2020.

City of Covina, California

BY: _____
VICTOR LINARES, Mayor

ATTEST:

GEORGIANNA NICOLE ALVAREZ
Chief Deputy City Clerk

Attachment B

CERTIFICATION

I, Georgianna Nicole Alvarez, Chief Deputy City Clerk of the City of Covina, do hereby certify that Resolution CC 2020-81 was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Covina at a regular meeting held on the 15th day of September, 2020, by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS:
NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS:
ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS:
ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Dated:

GEORGIANNA NICOLE ALVAREZ
Chief Deputy City Clerk