

Sent: 10/6/2025 12:56:39 PM
From: Mark Menesini <Menesini
To: "Lionel"
Cc:
Bcc:
Importance: Normal
Subject: RE: Please update Benicia's ALPR Policy
Attachments [image001.png](#) , [image002.png](#) , [image003.png](#)
: , [image004.png](#) , [image005.png](#)

Lionel,
Thanks for the response. These safeguards have been put in place since the ALPR technology was implemented in 2021. I appreciate you sharing this information with [REDACTED]

From: Lionel Largaespada <LLargaespada@ci.benicia.ca.us>
Sent: Monday, October 6, 2025 12:53 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Please update Benicia's ALPR Policy

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for these questions.

The Benicia Police Department's ALPR Policy (Policy 470) is attached and available on the City of Benicia's website here: <https://www.ci.benicia.ca.us/index.asp?SEC=68826789-63C6-4FAF-A4C2-04FB539FE803&DE=ED828606-AC77-47E9-97AC-7546BDB48514>.

The policy covers all of the areas you've asked about.

It authorizes ALPR technology only for reading and comparing license plates and does not permit any kind of predictive, biometric, or AI-based surveillance of people or behavior (Sections 470.1 and 470.4).

It also prohibits sharing data with ICE or CBP under the California Values Act (Sections 470.7 and 470.9), requires supervisory approval and written documentation for any other data sharing (470.9), mandates quarterly audits by the Services Lieutenant or the Chief's designee (470.8), and makes the policy publicly available with penalties for misuse (470.3.1 and 470.4).

The Council receives regular updates from the Chief, and the City Manager and Chief set the timing for when audit summaries or policy updates are shared publicly. It's usually as quickly as possible.

I appreciate your advocacy and the time you've taken to review the policy. The City's ALPR policy already includes the safeguards you've asked about, and I'm confident it will continue to strike the right balance between privacy, accountability, and public safety.

Sincerely,
Lionel



Lionel Largaespada

Council Member

Elected Official

O: [707-746-4213](tel:707-746-4213) | C: [415-377-2872](tel:415-377-2872)

LLargaespada@ci.benicia.ca.us

www.ci.benicia.ca.us



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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, October 5, 2025 11:29 AM
To: Lionel Largaespada <LLargaespada@ci.benicia.ca.us>
Subject: Re: Please update Benicia's ALPR Policy

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Lionel,
Thank you so
much for your

quick reply.

I have a few questions I hope you can answer.

Does the existing ALPR policy have specific language written that "does not permit predictive or AI surveillance of people or behavior"?

Please share the link to the ALPR Policy.

Are the "quarterly audits of ALPR use", including "results documented and reviewed by the Chief of Police", made available for the Mayor and City Council members to review? Will these results be presented at a City Council meeting?

Thank you for your time,

[REDACTED]

On Fri, Oct 3, 2025 at 11:24 AM Lionel Largaespada <LLargaespada@ci.benicia.ca.us> wrote:

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for writing me with your concerns. I want to reassure you that our existing ALPR policy already addresses what you've requested.

The policy only authorizes ALPR technology to capture license plates and does not permit predictive or AI surveillance of people or behavior. It explicitly prohibits sharing data with ICE and CBP under the California Values Act, and restricts any other data sharing to legitimate law enforcement purposes with supervisory oversight. By law, the Services Lieutenant conducts quarterly audits of ALPR use, with results documented and reviewed by the Chief of Police. The policy is posted publicly on the department's website, and violations carry administrative, civil, or even criminal penalties.

Thanks again for writing. The measures you suggested are already addressed under our existing policy.

Sincerely,
Lionel



Lionel Largaespada
Council Member

Elected Official

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, October 3, 2025 10:50 AM

To: Steve Young <SYoung@ci.benicia.ca.us>; Trevor Macenski <TMacenski@ci.benicia.ca.us>; Kari Birdseye <KBirdseye@ci.benicia.ca.us>; Lionel Largaespada <LLargaespada@ci.benicia.ca.us>; Terry Scott <TScott@ci.benicia.ca.us>

Subject: Please update Benicia's ALPR Policy

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Dear Mayor
Young and
Benicia City

Council Members,

I respectfully urge the Council to update Benicia's Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) Policy to ensure stronger community protections.

Specifically, I ask that you consider amendments to:

1. Prohibit the deployment of AI surveillance technologies in Benicia;
2. Prevent the sharing of license plate data with federal agencies unless explicitly approved by the City Council;

3. Strengthen and increase the transparency of system audits, including making audit results publicly available;
4. Require that updates to the ALPR policy include City Council approval.

Thank you for your leadership and for your continued commitment to protecting the privacy and safety of Benicia residents.



Public Records Exemptions

Enclosed please find a copy of the response documents for your public records request. The following information is provided to explain the process employed to review and produce the response documents.

Reason	Description	Pages
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