

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) technology is used by police departments as an investigative and real time crime tool that improves the effectiveness of police operations by quickly locating violent offenders, missing persons, and others who have committed serious felony offenses; and

WHEREAS, ALPR technology focuses solely on recording the vehicle make, model, and license plate number; and

WHEREAS, the Austin Police Department (APD) has both adopted an ALPR general order and implemented a pilot program with safeguards consistent with Council direction in Resolution Nos. 20220915-056 and 20230608-085, Public Safety Commission's Recommendation No. 20230515-002, and Office of Police Oversight feedback; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, the City entered into an agreement with Flock Safety to provide hardware and software solutions to implement ALPR technology (Agreement).

WHEREAS, the City Auditor's Office completed a comprehensive audit of APD's ALPR program and its use of the ALPR system and presented the audit to the Audit and Finance Committee on May 19, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the audit report demonstrated that APD leadership provided accurate ALPR system data; incorporated best practices observed in peer police departments; properly used the ALPR software and multiple hotlists, leading to 13,122 matches with zero incorrect or unjustified stops; adhered to Council data sharing limitations, with data shared on three occasions addressing three allowable categories: trafficking of persons, theft of a motor vehicle, and arson; and

completed 27 requests from APD officers for a license plate number to be entered into APD's custom hotlist, which resulted in 193 hits, with zero unjustified stops; and

WHEREAS, the audit report also found that the Agreement could potentially allow Flock Safety to retain data that could be later used by other law enforcement entities, in contradiction of Austin's policy of limiting access to such data to City employees; and

WHEREAS, APD implemented the pilot program on March 28, 2024, and the program will terminate on June 21, 2025, unless continued by the City Council;
NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The Council authorizes the continuation of the ALPR pilot program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to take administrative steps to continue the ALPR pilot program, direct an amendment to any agreement related to the program consistent with requested retention safeguards, and to seek further Council authorization as may be required to continue the ALPR program.

ADOPTED: _____, 2025 **ATTEST:** _____

Erika Brady
City Clerk