

**CITY OF TEMECULA
AGENDA REPORT**

TO: City Manager/City Council

FROM: Captain Chris Durham, Temecula Police Chief

DATE: December 12, 2023

SUBJECT: Approve Five-Year Agreement for License Plate Recognition with Flock Group, Inc.

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council:

1. Approve 80 cameras citywide, annual hardware, and software subscription for five (5) years for a locked in rate of \$200,000 per year, for a total of \$1,000,000; and
2. Authorize the City Manager to approve contract change orders up to 10% of the total contract, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000; and
3. Appropriate \$35,000 to supplement the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Police Department Software and Maintenance budget to accommodate the purchase of the additional cameras.

BACKGROUND: On July 13, 2021, the City Council approved an agreement with the Flock Group, for the purchase of 50 cameras as part of the Flock Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) System. Two additional cameras were later added to the system and approved by City Council on December 14, 2021, for a total of 52 cameras citywide. Flock has now presented the Riverside County Sheriff's Office (RSO) and the City with a unique opportunity to lock in current pricing before 2024 price increases, of \$2,500 per camera for five (5) years. For the current 52 cameras, that would equate to a per camera savings of approximately \$500 per year or \$130,000 over 5-years.

On November 7, 2023, Chief Durham presented to the Public Safety Ad Hoc Subcommittee (Councilmembers Alexander and Kalfus) how the Flock System has dramatically increased the Sheriff's Department's ability to increase public safety by deterring, capturing, and arresting criminal suspects. The current cameras have led to the recovery of over 60 vehicles involved in criminal activity, support in amber and silver alerts (missing seniors with various mental disabilities) as well as assistance in a recent assault with a deadly weapon case. Although cameras are deployed throughout the City, including examples of private property owners investing in this technology such as the Temecula Car Dealerships and varied HOA's, in the opinion of law enforcement, the middle part of the city lacks adequate Flock coverage.

To address this issue, RSO has recommended an additional 28 cameras, for a total of 80 cameras. As a proven and critical law enforcement tool, RSO and the City would like to take the fiscally

proactive action of locking in the current annual rate, which will save the City \$200,000 over the five (5) year period. The total five (5) year contract amount is \$1,000,000. This agreement will maintain current levels of technology adoption, which does not include facial recognition software nor any illegal invasion of privacy. ALPR users are required to maintain reasonable security procedures and practices, including operational, administrative, technical, and physical safeguards, to protect ALPR information from unauthorized access, destruction, use, modification, or disclosure. Should the City and/or RSO elect to adopt additional Flock technologies during the agreement term, those modifications would be subject to City Council approval.

In addition to Riverside County having a contractual relationship/investment with Flock for the unincorporated areas, the following Riverside County City's currently utilize Flock cameras:

- Beaumont
- Canyon Lake
- Corona
- Desert Hot Springs
- Eastvale
- Hemet
- Indian Wells – Pending with Council
- Jurupa Valley
- Lake Elsinore
- La Quinta
- Indio
- Menifee
- Moreno Valley
- Murrieta
- Norco
- Palm Desert
- Palm Springs – Pending with Council
- Rancho Mirage
- Riverside City
- Temecula

Although both Subcommittee members expressed their support of RSO's efforts and the Flock outcomes, there was a stated concern over the potential proliferation of cameras and the possible advent of "Big Brother" technology here in Temecula. Staff acknowledged the Subcommittee concerns and outlined the obligation to proceed with the City Staff/RSO recommendation(s) to enhance public safety (through this investment) for consideration by the full City Council.

FISCAL IMPACT: Adequate funds have been appropriated in the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Annual Police Department Operating Budget.

ATTACHMENTS: Services Agreement