

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Automatic License Plate Recognition (ALPR) Security Camera System (Annual Contract) – Cooperative Purchase
INITIATED BY:	Finance Department

It is requested that Council approve an annual contract with Flock Group, Inc., dba Flock Safety (Atlanta, GA) for the provision of an automatic license plate recognition (ALPR) security camera system, including installation for the Police Department. In FY21, the Police Department will make an initial purchase of \$22,000 (8 cameras @ \$2,500 each and 8 implementation fees @ \$250.00 each) and anticipates making future purchases over the term of the contract. The purchase will be accomplished via cooperative purchase by utilizing RFP No. 21-3746, initiated by the City of Greenville, South Carolina.

Statistics show that over 70% of crime occurs with a vehicle, the Flock Safety ALPR system is able to capture vehicles traveling up to 75 MPH and up to 75 ft away—day and night. Cameras are often installed at neighborhood entrances to capture images of all incoming vehicles. As they pass by the camera, it captures multiple still images of each automobile. These images do not stay on the local device for long. Once images are captured, the camera almost immediately uploads them into the vendor’s securely encrypted cloud server. This means that even if an individual camera device is tampered with or vandalized, there will be no footage on the actual camera.

The Police Department will use the ALPR cameras as a forensic tool to solve crimes after they occur and as a proactive tool. The ALPR will alert the Police Department on vehicle license plates that have been entered into a national database for one or more violations or alerts of missing person. The ALPR will also perform the following:

- 1) The system can identify vehicles not only by tag information but by the actual vehicle specifications such as tail-lights.
- 2) The system allows officers to scan a tag with their phones and receive information.
- 3) The vendor will provide a pole for installation as part of the purchase price.
- 4) The camera system is self-contained using solar power to operate.
- 5) The system also has vehicle fingerprint technology, allowing the Police Department to set up vehicle alerts based on description, color, etc... without a tag number.

The contract period shall be for two years with the option to renew for three (3) additional 12-month periods, contingent upon the mutual agreement of both parties.

The purchase will be accomplished via cooperative purchase utilizing RFP No. 21-3746, initiated by the City of Greenville, South Carolina which was issued December 10, 2020. Flock Group Inc., dba Flock Safety was the successful vendor awarded an annual contract to provide an automatic license plate recognition (ALPR) security camera system. The RFP process used by the City of Greenville meets the requirements of the City's Procurement Ordinance; additionally, Cooperative Purchasing is authorized per Article 9-101 of the Procurement Ordinance.

Funds will be budgeted for this ongoing expense: General Fund – Police – Field Operations - Other Purchased Services; 0101 – 400 – 2300 – FILD - 6699.

A RESOLUTION

NO. _____

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN ANNUAL CONTRACT WITH FLOCK GROUP, INC., DBA FLOCK SAFETY (ATLANTA, GA) FOR THE PROVISION OF AN AUTOMATIC LICENSE PLATE RECOGNITION (ALPR) SECURITY CAMERA SYSTEM, INCLUDING INSTALLATION FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT. IN FY21, THE POLICE DEPARTMENT WILL MAKE AN INITIAL PURCHASE OF \$22,000 (8 CAMERAS @ \$2,500 EACH AND 8 IMPLEMENTATION FEES @ \$250.00 EACH) AND ANTICIPATES MAKING FUTURE PURCHASES OVER THE TERM OF THE CONTRACT. THE PURCHASE WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED VIA COOPERATIVE PURCHASE BY UTILIZING RFP NO. 21-3746, INITIATED BY THE CITY OF GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA.

WHEREAS, statistics show that over 70% of crime occurs with a vehicle, the Flock Safety ALPR system is able to capture vehicles traveling up to 75 MPH and up to 75 ft away—day and night. Cameras are often installed at neighborhood entrances to capture images of all incoming vehicles. As they pass by the camera, it captures multiple still images of each automobile. These images do not stay on the local device for long. Once images are captured, the camera almost immediately uploads them into the vendor's securely encrypted cloud server. This means that even if an individual camera device is tampered with or vandalized, there will be no footage on the actual camera; and,

WHEREAS, the Police Department will use the ALPR cameras as a forensic tool to solve crimes after they occur and as a proactive tool. The ALPR will alert the Police Department on vehicle license plates that have been entered into a national database for one or more violations or alerts of missing person. The ALPR will also perform the following:

- 1) The system can identify vehicles not only by tag information but by the actual vehicle specifications such as tail-lights.
- 2) The system allows officers to scan a tag with their phones and receive information.
- 3) The vendor will provide a pole for installation as part of the purchase price.
- 4) The camera system is self-contained using solar power to operate.
- 5) The system also has vehicle fingerprint technology, allowing the Police Department to set up vehicle alerts based on description, color, etc... without a tag number; and,

WHEREAS, the contract period shall be for two years with the option to renew for three (3) additional 12-month periods, contingent upon the mutual agreement of both parties; and,

WHEREAS, the purchase will be accomplished via cooperative purchase utilizing RFP No. 21-3746, initiated by the City of Greenville, South Carolina which was issued December 10, 2020. Flock Group Inc., dba Flock Safety was the successful vendor awarded an annual contract to provide an automatic license plate recognition (ALPR) security camera system. The RFP process used by the City of Greenville meets the requirements of the City's Procurement Ordinance; additionally, Cooperative Purchasing is authorized per Article 9-101 of the Procurement Ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

That the City Manager is hereby authorized to enter into an annual contract with Flock Group, Inc., dba Flock Safety (Atlanta, GA) for the provision of an automatic license plate recognition (ALPR) security camera system, including installation for the Police Department. In FY21, the Police Department will make an initial purchase of \$22,000 (8 cameras @ \$2,500 each and 8 implementation fees @ \$250.00 each) and anticipates making future purchases over the term of the contract. The purchase will be accomplished via cooperative purchase by utilizing RFP No. 21-3746, initiated by the City of Greenville, South Carolina. Funds will be budgeted for this ongoing expense: General Fund – Police – Field Operations - Other Purchased Services; 0101 – 400 – 2300 – FILD - 6699.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the _____ day of _____, 2021 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen voting	_____.
Councilor Barnes voting	_____.
Councilor Crabb voting	_____.
Councilor Davis voting	_____.
Councilor Garrett voting	_____.
Councilor House voting	_____.
Councilor Huff voting	_____.
Councilor Thomas voting	_____.
Councilor Tucker voting	_____.
Councilor Woodson voting	_____.

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson III, Mayor