





## Memorandum

Date: April 30, 2026  
To: Mayor and City Councilmembers  
Through: Kelly DiMartino, City Manager   
Jeff Swoboda, Chief of Police  
From: Greg Yeager, Deputy Chief of Police   
Adam McCambridge, Assistant Chief of Patrol  
Subject: Flock/ALPR Usage

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### Background and Purpose

On February 24, 2026, FCPS Executive Staff members met with the City Council to provide an overview of the operations, protections, efficacy, and safety of the Flock Safety Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) system. That work session was followed by a memorandum on March 5, 2026, replying to numerous inquiries raised during the February 24th discussion. City Council members requested additional information regarding potential paths forward related to FCPS' use of the Flock Safety ALPR system.

It is worth noting that State Legislature, in the last week, postponed indefinitely two bills (SB-070 and HB-1037) which would have resulted in significant restrictions on the use of this technology. Both may be reintroduced in the 2027 Session. A similarly themed bill was introduced to the US House of Representatives on April 23rd and it could affect the warrant requirements for using such systems. Finally, a local petition for a ballot initiative may result in changes to how this technology is selected and utilized in the City of Fort Collins. A final outcome may not be known until November 2026. Options below may be affected by any potential law changes.

Our purpose is to offer options for the Council to improve governance, while considering community concerns related to privacy, data use, and oversight and the Council's own priorities.

### **Option 1: Continue Current Deployment While a Council Technology Policy and RFP Process are Completed**



The Flock Safety system could be utilized, unless impacted by pending legislation, until the contract ends on April 9, 2027, while the Council develops a technology use policy and a Request for Proposals (RFP) process is launched to find the best vendor for 2027. This maintains current operations without changes while allowing time for Council policy direction and future procurement. Flock Safety cannot be excluded from the RFP process.

### **Option 2: Enhance Current Deployment with Additional Controls and Oversight**

Continue use of the Flock Safety system while strengthening controls and oversight in response to Council and community concerns. This offers stability while expanding trust and expediting completion of a Council technology use policy which would instruct future actions.

- **Reduce data retention from 30 days to 23 days**

The current 30-day retention helps to ensure data is available within a reasonable investigative timeline. Considerations include variable timing of victim reporting, initial Patrol-level intake and investigation, and subsequent assignment to a detective for follow-up investigation. It may take days or weeks for investigators to develop enough information to utilize the system. A 23-day retention may still allow them to find wanted vehicles before the data is deleted.

- **Enhance remedies for misuse or unauthorized disclosure in Flock contract**

Request the incorporation of city-preferred language that increases contractual consequences for mishandling or improperly disclosing sensitive information.

- Flock recently added language specifically for Commerce City.

- **Enhance Audit Activity**

- Post current monthly audits to the FCPS Transparency Page
- Share audits with a body identified by the Council (e.g. Citizen Review Board)
- Stronger audit and accountability language: Add detail around “complete and unaltered” access logs, tie access to case/incident numbers, and commit to working with city auditors and public records obligations to show exactly how the technology is being used.

- **Examples of Use Modifications**

**Boulder** (04/27/2026)<sup>1</sup>: Boulder launched a competitive bidding process for its ALPR as it reassessed its relationship with Flock Safety. The city signed a temporary extension with



Flock that included updated privacy provisions that allow Boulder to exit the deal with 30 days' notice. Flock is likely to submit a bid to remain its provider.

The selected vendor will operate approximately 50 cameras at key arterial roads and city entrance points that can capture plates and vehicle details. The city did not request a specific data retention period, but it wants control over that time frame and data sharing.

**Durango (04/20/2026)2:** Durango residents drafted an ordinance that would limit how Flock license plate reader cameras operate in the city. The proposal would severely restrict how long recordings are stored, who can access them, and when a warrant is required to review footage.

### **Option 3: Discontinue Current Deployment and Initiate Competitive Procurement**

FCPS could immediately discontinue its use of the system and begin the process of selecting a new vendor following the City's RFP process. This option removes a valuable investigative tool until the RFP process identifies a successor, funding is secured for the 2027 budget, and a new system is deployed. Flock Safety cannot be excluded from the RFP process.

The current contract is fully paid through April 2027; discontinuing use would not result in a refund and future procurement would require additional funding. Further, this option may also affect regional data sharing benefits currently available through Colorado-only agencies using the same system.

**Denver (03/31/2026)3:** Denver decommissioned and removed all 110 Flock Safety license plate reader cameras across the city as its contract expired. Denver City Council approved a contract with Axon to provide a replacement system. The replacement cameras won't be operational for several weeks, and the new system will include only 50 cameras.

### **Option 4: Eliminate ALPR for Police Services**

If the Council chooses to eliminate all ALPRs, it will impact the ability or timeliness of developing investigative leads in certain cases. FCPS previously listed and explained the weekly successes of these devices which result in the safe recovery of lost children, adults, and property. Through mid-April 2026, Flock technology has been used in over 100 cases, approximately half of which resulted



in a citation or arrest. Local cases include serious crime resolutions, as noted during the District Attorney's comments to Council on April 14th.

## **Recommendations**

Fort Collins Police Services and regional partners agree that retaining the use of ALPR systems is beneficial to providing safety and the pursuit of justice in our city. Therefore, FCPS leadership recommends retention of ALPR technology, while adding oversight and data protections to maintain the public's trust, as the City Council provides policy guidance on its use.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.axios.com/local/boulder/2026/04/27/boulder-flock-license-plate-reader-bids-privacy-concerns>

<sup>2</sup> [https://bento.pbs.org/prod/filer\\_public/kрма-bento-live-pbs/PDFS/75adde5e98\\_deflock%20ordinance%20proposal.pdf](https://bento.pbs.org/prod/filer_public/kрма-bento-live-pbs/PDFS/75adde5e98_deflock%20ordinance%20proposal.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.9news.com/article/news/local/denver-removes-flock-license-plate-reader-cameras/73-eaf91d0a-3b90-45f5-8338-dbb9f79a8712>