

County of Santa Clara

Office of the District Attorney

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Jeffrey Rosen
District Attorney

April 14, 2023

Chief Angela Averiett
Los Altos Police Department
1 N San Antonio Road
Los Altos, California 94022

RE: Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR)

Dear Chief Averiett:

Through our recent conversations, I know reducing crime and improving public safety is one of your top priorities. I appreciate your commitment to technology and resources that work towards this goal, including the Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) pilot program you drafted for your agency. Since most crimes are committed with a vehicle, license plate numbers give law enforcement officers the leads necessary to complete investigations and solve crimes. At the District Attorney's Office, we have seen an increase in filed cases associated with ALPR cameras in various jurisdictions within Santa Clara County.

I understand you are returning to Los Altos City Council on April 28th to discuss Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) cameras for your jurisdiction. As a resident of Los Altos, I would welcome the installation of the cameras in our city. I believe the ALPR policies that have been outlined will work to protect the privacy concerns of residents, such as the encryption system utilized by Flock, the short retention period of 30 days, and the Safe List feature that allows neighborhood residents to register their license plates and opt to be eliminated from captured footage.

As a community, we can stand up to the criminals victimizing the residents of Los Altos by giving law enforcement the technology tools to solve crimes quickly and effectively. In addition, an ALPR camera system aids in identifying Amber, Blue, and Silver alert vehicles that may enter Los Altos. The District Attorney's Office shares your priorities of reducing crime and improving public safety. We are here as your partners to achieve these goals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeffrey F. Rosen".

Jeffrey F. Rosen
District Attorney