



AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY FORM

PROPOSED MEETING DATE: June 7, 2023
PREPARED BY: Ryan Phipps, Chief of Police
DEPARTMENT: Police Department

AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION:

Consideration, discussion, and possible action to authorize the Manor Police Department to enter into an agreement with Flock Safety for the deployment of a vehicle fingerprinting system.

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

Crime is up across the US and Manor is not immune to this statistic. Property crime is the most common type of crime committed in the US-and it's on the rise. Reports increased from the first quarter of 2021 to the first quarter of 2022 in 62 of the 100 largest cities. Cases nationwide exceed 7 million per year, yet law enforcement solve a small percentage of these cases because they rarely have sufficient evidence to build a case. However, we do know that 7/10 crimes are committed using a vehicle, and vehicle information is one of the best pieces of evidence to solve criminal cases.

The Manor Police Department is looking to increase the use of technology in our task of solving and preventing criminal activity within the city limits as well as assist surrounding agencies in their criminal investigations by using a vehicle fingerprinting system. The technology is as if we put a key-card access gate or posted a security guard at key points in the city, just like a fancy neighborhood that writes down every license plate and vehicle data that enters. This technology will document the vehicles visiting our community and build a bank of temporary data that can be used to identify stolen vehicles, and vehicles used in crimes, and provide timelines for incidents that occur within the city. The technology also allows us to enter stolen vehicles, suspect vehicles, sexual predator offender information, and other valuable tools to help should we need to identify the location of said vehicle.

This technology will be placed at key points based on statistical data that will capture the most data for assistance to our investigations. We will be working with our local HOAs to invest in sister technology that will capture the same data but for their own communities that is sharable with our network of data at a low cost. We have seen neighborhoods across Travis County make this investment and have heard about the success of those systems.

This technology is being used in more than 2,000 cities by more than 2,000 law enforcement agencies and in more than 2,500 communities. It has read more than one billion vehicles per month and runs these license plates against a "Hot List," checking for stolen vehicles, wanted persons, missing persons, and BOLO's. This has resulted in more than a 70% increase in crime reduction for those agencies that have implemented this technology in their community. These Hot List alerts are real-time and notify local law enforcement.

Currently, several central Texas agencies have implemented FLOCK and have cameras in their city/county, including Pflugerville PD, Travis County Sheriff's Office, Williamson County Sheriff's Office, Sunset Valley PD, Bee Cave PD, Buda PD, Lago Vista PD, Salado PD, Round Rock PD, San Marcos PD, Bastrop PD, and others.

LEGAL REVIEW: No

FISCAL IMPACT: Yes, one-time expense of \$41,750 and an annual recurring total \$30,000 for a first-year total of \$71,750.

PRESENTATION: No

ATTACHMENTS: Yes

- Agreement

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

It is the city staff's recommendation that the City Council approve and authorize the Manor Police Department to enter into an agreement with Flock Safety for the deployment of a vehicle fingerprinting system in an amount not to exceed \$71,750.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION:

Recommend Approval

Disapproval

None
