



CITY OF NOVI CITY COUNCIL
JUNE 5, 2023

SUBJECT: Approval to award a contract effective July 1, 2023 to Flock Safety, sole source provider, for the purchase of a stationary License Plate Reader (LPR) System in the amount of \$36,500 for the first year and \$30,000/year thereafter.

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: Public Safety - Police

EXPENDITURE REQUIRED	\$36,500
AMOUNT BUDGETED	\$36,700 (FY 2023-24 Budget)
APPROPRIATION REQUIRED	N/A
LINE ITEM NUMBER	101-301.00-982.056

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The purchase of a stationary License Plate Reader (LPR) System is included in the Adopted FY 2023-24 Budget which was approved by City Council on Monday, May 8, 2023. Automatic License Plate Readers (LPRs) are high-speed, computer-controlled camera systems that are typically mounted on street poles, streetlights, highway overpasses, mobile trailers, or attached to police squad cars. LPRs automatically capture all license plate numbers that come into view, along with the location, date, and time. The data, which includes photographs of the vehicle and sometimes its driver and passengers, is then uploaded to a central server.

License plate reader systems are increasingly being tapped for a variety of investigations. The law enforcement community can retrieve LPR data to determine vehicles in the vicinity of a crime scene, can provide photos of those vehicles to confirm suspect alibis, and also be used to analyze crime patterns.

License plate readers have spread rapidly in policing and are now used by an estimated two-thirds of large agencies in the United States for a range of patrol, investigative, and security operations.

Flock Safety partners with Axon, our preferred vendor for our upcoming transition to new vehicle and body cameras. Axon installs the cameras, but the software and database used belong to Flock Safety. Flock Safety is emerging as the leader in this field and is currently being used by several agencies in the region, including our neighbors in Farmington Hills, and they are adding Oakland County agencies rapidly.

We identified Novi and I-96 as the most ideal spot to place stationary cameras as the main access point to our city. The Flock Safety representative stated that it would take 8-10 cameras to fully cover the intersection.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approval to award a contract effective July 1, 2023 to Flock Safety, sole source provider, for the purchase of a stationary License Plate Reader (LPR) System in the amount of \$36,500 for the first year and \$30,000/year thereafter.