

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY SHEET

City of Rollingwood

Meeting Date: September 17, 2025

Submitted By:

Staff, by request from Councilmember Glasheen

Agenda Item:

Discussion and possible action on License Plate Reading Camera vendor alternatives

Description:

In recent meetings, Council has discussed the possibility of approving the installation of License Plate Readers (LPRs) at key ingress and egress locations within the City of Rollingwood to enhance public safety and investigative capabilities. LPR technology can assist officers in real-time crime prevention, suspect tracking, and stolen vehicle recovery.

The initial discussions centered on LPRs from Flock Safety, one of the largest providers of such technology in the region. Some members of Council had concerns about approving the installation and use of LPRs in Rollingwood, and some were in favor. Of those in favor, some disapproved of the terms and conditions associated with the implementation of Flock Safety's offering and wished to explore alternate vendors' solutions.

Many ANPR/LPR vendors and camera/VMS systems let you schedule or disable plate-reading for specific times (e.g., only run from 01:00–05:00, or not run during that window).

How it's usually done (and where to look):

- Camera / device level: some LPR cameras let you stop the LPR service or enable/disable ALPR on a schedule in the camera firmware. (Rekor Edge Pro documentation explains stopping the LPR service and has day/night modes tied to locale/sunrise-sunset.)
- VMS / server scheduling: enterprise VMS products let administrators create schedules (time ranges) and enable/disable features or tasks (so you can turn ALPR processing on/off on a schedule). Genetec Security Center's scheduling feature is an example.
- Camera app features: some camera vendors' LPR apps/plugins include built-in schedules for allowlists/blocklists or the LPR task itself (Axis LPR/Verifier docs show a schedule control). Many ANPR-capable IP cameras also expose an "Enable LPR" checkbox and schedule controls in their web UI (example: Milesight).

Examples — vendors to consider:

- Axis (camera + LPR modules): supports schedule entries for LPR/list activation.
- Genetec (AutoVu + Security Center): supports schedules and scheduled tasks at the VMS level. Good for enterprise deployments that need centralized control.
- Rekor (Edge Pro): device doc shows LPR service can be stopped/started and has day/night camera modes; useful when you want onboard control.
- Milesight / many LPR-enabled IP cameras: support toggling LPR features in their web UIs (enable/disable LPR, configure capture windows).
- Note: some turnkey neighborhood/municipal providers (e.g., Flock Safety) are marketed as always-on 24/7 and may not offer a user-facing hourly disable option — check policies and product settings if you need limited hours.

Practical tips for procurement / deployment:

1. Decide where you want the schedule enforced: on the camera (device-level), on the LPR engine (edge/server), or in the VMS. Centralized VMS scheduling is easiest to manage for lots of cameras.
2. Ask vendors for explicit functionality in writing: e.g., “Can the ALPR capture/processing be disabled by schedule (daily time window, by camera) and can you confirm how logs/metadata are handled during off hours?” — this avoids surprises (some systems still record images but don’t run plate OCR).
3. Confirm privacy/data retention behavior during the off window (are images/metadata still stored? Are timestamps still logged?). Some vendors are 24/7 by default.

Action Requested:

To discuss alternative License Plate Reading Camera vendors and guidelines for deployment and usage

Fiscal Impacts:

Dependent upon Council’s direction

Attachments:

- Vendor Questionnaire – Scheduled License Plate Reader Operation