

# City of Spring Lake Park Staff Report



Agenda Date	Status
June 1, 2026	Work Session
Requestor	Agenda Section
Antoine	Discussion
Agenda Item:	
Anoka Regional Crime Technology and Information Center (ARCTIC) Initiative	
Executive Summary	
<p>Anoka County is exploring a countywide public safety technology initiative through the Anoka Regional Crime Technology and Information Center (ARCTIC). The initiative would include automated license plate reader cameras, live-view cameras, and Drone as First Responder technology to support law enforcement, fire, EMS, emergency management, and public safety response.</p>	
Background	
<p>The ARCTIC initiative is intended to create a shared countywide public safety technology platform. Automated license plate reader cameras would capture vehicle and license plate information and compare plates against Bureau of Criminal Apprehension hotlists. The system does not use facial recognition, does not provide direct access to criminal justice information systems, and requires officers to verify any alert before taking enforcement action. Non-hit plate data is retained for 30 days before automatic deletion, although it may be searched during that timeframe for investigative purposes.</p> <p>The initiative also includes Drone as First Responder technology, which would allow drones to provide real-time situational awareness before first responders arrive on scene. Potential uses include missing person searches, officer needs-assistance calls, fire scene assessment, thermal imaging, crash information, emergency management damage assessment, and resource deployment decisions. Drone docks would be placed at strategic locations throughout the county, supported by radar systems intended to assist with flight safety and airspace deconfliction.</p>	

## **Board/Commission Review**

N/A

## **Financial Impact**

The annual cost of the initiative is \$1,772,500 annually. The first two years are free. Anoka County is negotiating a non-appropriation clause that would allow us to exit the initiative after the first two years. The City's estimated share would be \$16,129.75, starting in 2029.

Additional details regarding ongoing costs, local budget impacts, implementation timing, and any required agreements will need to be reviewed before final participation is authorized

## **Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the City Council receive the presentation and provide feedback regarding the City's potential participation in the ARCTIC public safety technology initiative. No formal action is requested at this time.

## **Attachments**