



Memorandum

Date: September 21, 2026

To: Mayor and City Council

Re: Anoka County Flock/DFR pilot program

Mayor and City Council Members,

In 2024, the Spring Lake Park Police Department partnered with Flock Safety to install two automated license plate recognition (ALPR) cameras in the city. Since then, the cameras have provided significant investigative benefits.

Spring Lake Park PD has access to the statewide and nationwide Flock network. We routinely update our system settings to address emerging concerns. The department does not share data with out-of-state agencies, and the system is configured to automatically reject any immigration- or reproductive-rights-related search requests. We are also evaluating a potential shift to a seven-day retention period for data not associated with officer-initiated searches. Our current retention period is 30 days, which is already well below the state's 60-day requirement.

On September 8, 2026, a resolution was placed on the consent agenda to accept a \$3,000 donation from a local business owner to help offset the city's annual \$6,000 subscription cost for the two cameras. After public comment, the council removed the resolution from the agenda and voted to discuss it further at a future work session. This will be the third work session dedicated to the Flock system.

Over the past several months, I have responded to inquiries from council members and residents, and I remain available to answer additional questions at the upcoming work session.

Separately, in late 2026 the Anoka County Sheriff's Office launched a one-year pilot project involving ALPR technology and Drone Assisted Responders (DARs). DARs are deployed to scenes ahead of police or fire personnel, providing real-time video to support informed pre-arrival planning. Sheriff Brad Wise

has agreed to attend the September 21 work session to outline the pilot project and address any questions.

In addition, Hannah Wind, a public affairs manager with Flock, will join us virtually to respond to council inquiries regarding the system.

While some residents have raised concerns about the technology, I have addressed these questions to the best of my ability. At this point, I am requesting direction from the city council at the September 21, 2026 meeting. With our annual renewal approaching in October, guidance is needed regarding the continued use of the Flock cameras.

Thank you for your consideration.

Chief Josh Antoine