Safe County Initiative

Anoka Regional Crime, Technology, and Information Center (ARCTIC)

Project Overview

Automated License Plate Reader cameras (ALPR)

Live view cameras

Drone as First Responder

Technology

Automated License Plate Reader Cameras

◈ What it is

  ◇ Photos of the rear of vehicle capturing the vehicle make, model, color and the license plate.

  ◇ The algorithm reads the characters on the plate and identifies the state of the plate based on the characteristics of the plate.

  ◈ The algorithm compares the characters on the plate to a 'hotlist' that is uploaded to the vendor by the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension every 6-12 hours

BCA Hotlists – what are they

This is a list that is sent to the vendor every 6-12 hours and contains 'hits' for:

- Commercial Vehicle Operator's license – Revoked
- Canadian Police Information Center Alerts
- Disqualified Driver
- Extreme Risk Protection Order (Red Flag Law)
- Group Member Capability
  - Gang Member, Foreign Terrorist Organization Member, Etc.
- KOPS Alerts
  - 24-hour alert for officer safety related to a specific incident
- Minnesota Warrants
- Missing Persons
- National Sex Offender Registry (non-compliant)
- Protection Orders
- Revoked License
- Stolen License Plate
- Stolen Vehicle
- Supervised Release
- Suspended License
- Violent Person alerts
- Amber Alerts

ALPR cont.

ALPR Cameras do not:

- Use facial recognition technology
- Have any direct access to CJIS (criminal justice information systems) data
  - The only access they have is to the Hotlist by BCA
- They do not provide any personally identifiable data across the system
  - Each officer must still run each plate that is alerted on to verify the hit
  - Verify the validity of the hit before taking action
    - Matching vehicle, characters, state, etc

If the plate is not a match to anything on the hot list, no action is taken. The photo remains in the system for 30 days before being automatically deleted.

- It can, however, be searched for investigations within that time frame to help identify potential suspects

- There are concerns about data retention being brought up around the country
  - While the concerns are valid, there are safeguards that are in place in Minnesota
  - MN stopped Nationwide search capabilities.
    - No longer can an agency from outside of Minnesota do a random search and get hits in Minnesota.
      - The only way that this type of search can be done is if the searching agency has a 1-to-1 sharing agreement, and then they can only search the cameras that are on the requested agency's system.
  - If an officer/detective is trying to establish a pattern of life or to track down a person via their vehicle, a signed search warrant is required prior to conducting that part of the investigation.

Data Retention

Alerts

What does an alert look like? Is there personal information on the alert?

Searching in FlockOS

IN 2024, ANOKA COUNTY AGENCIES CONDUCTED
708 TOTAL UAS FLIGHTS.

2025 BCA reporting is currently in progress
2025 added two additional search warrant exemptions (Missing person and imminent evidence destruction)

Drone as First Responder – what is it?

◈ DFR is a resource that is able to put 'eyes' on scene before first responders arrive.

   ◇ This allows for faster 'arrival' of first resources

      ◈ Typically, within 90 seconds from launch

◈ Law Enforcement

   ◇ Response time to the scene

   ◇ Location of missing persons

   ◇ Officer needs help calls

   ◇ Potential assistance during pursuits

      ◈ Depends on location and speeds.

Drone as First Responder – what is it?

Fire Response

Response time to scenes

Hot spot detection using the onboard FLIR/Thermal

Wind weather spread intel while units are enroute

Faster up or down staffing response

EMS

Crash information while enroute

Approach/Eventuation routes

Emergency Management

Damage assessments during natural disasters

Faster Information for resource requests

"Dock"

A Drone Dock is a self-contained base station that stores, charges and launches drones at the command of remote pilots

- A rugged, environmentally sealed enclosure that houses the drone.
- When the drone lands in the dock, it either charges the batteries or swaps for fresh ones
- Autonomously launches the drone at the command of the pilot (opens and closes lid, conducts preflight checks, and takes off automatically)
- Docks are staged on rooftops at key locations across the county.
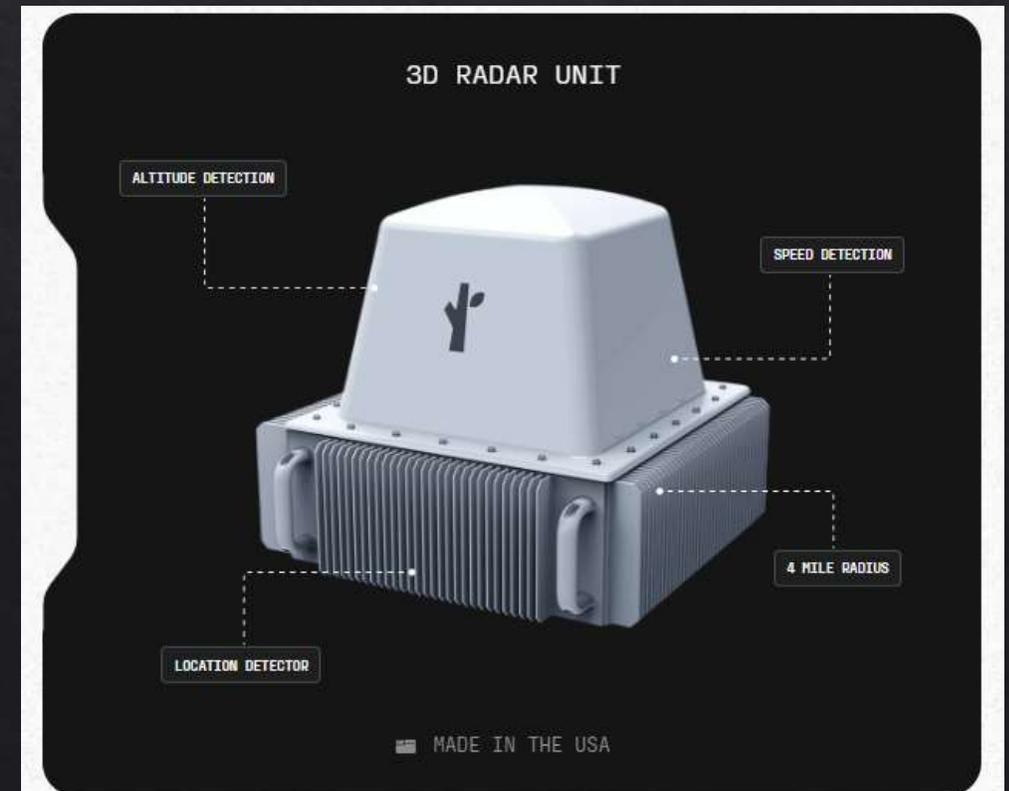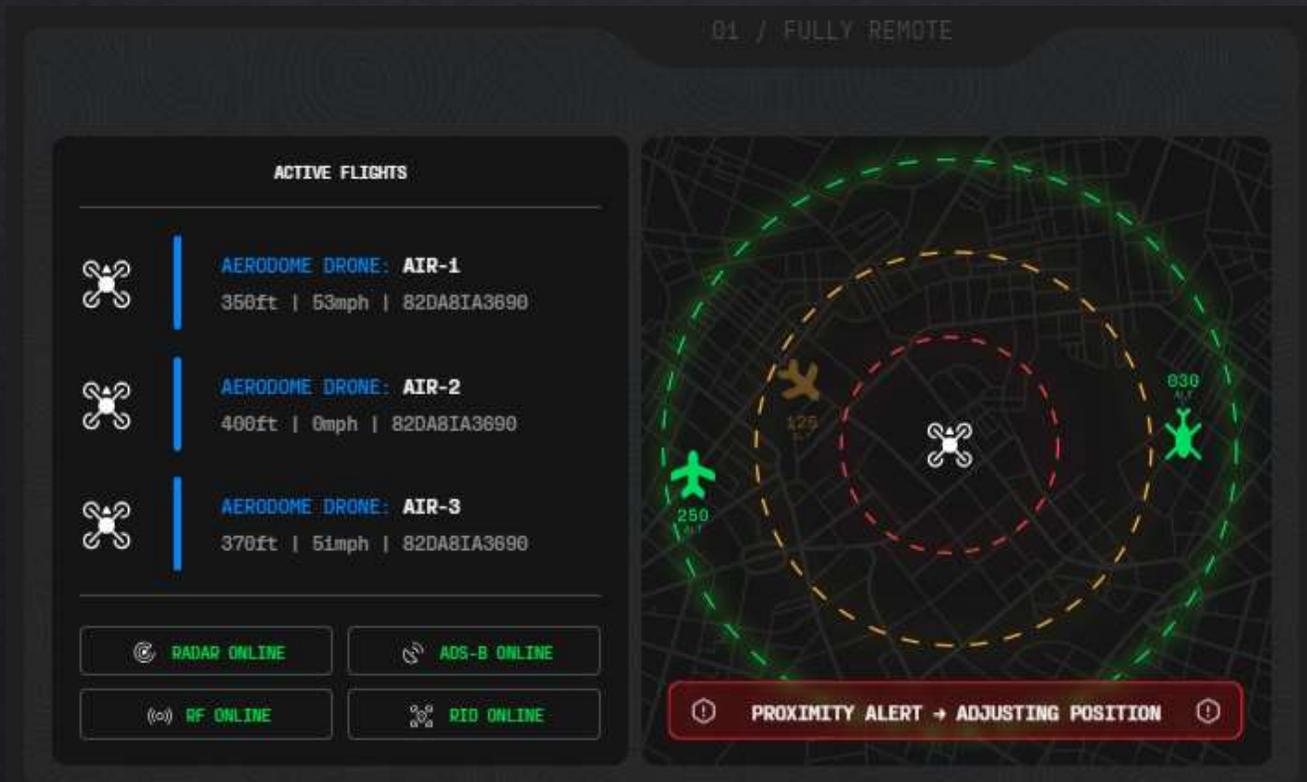
FLOCK ALPHA

DJI Matrice 4TD

Industrial Grade drones designed for Public Safety
- 40–50 minute flight times based on weather and environment
- Ruggedized for weather: can fly in rain, wind and snow (IP55 rating)
- 45MPH+ flight speeds to respond quickly
- 3-4 mile radius range for large response coverage areas
- Telephoto camera lenses capable of detailed close ups of incidents
- Thermal camera for detecting heat signatures like missing people, wanted fugitives or fire hotspots

Safety and Flight Deconfliction

◇ DFR Radar provides 3D radar coverage around critical areas like Blaine Airport. Detects manned aircraft, drones, birds, and obstacles in real time.

    ◇ Triggering route adjustments or launch delays if airspace is not clear.

Anoka County DFR Plan

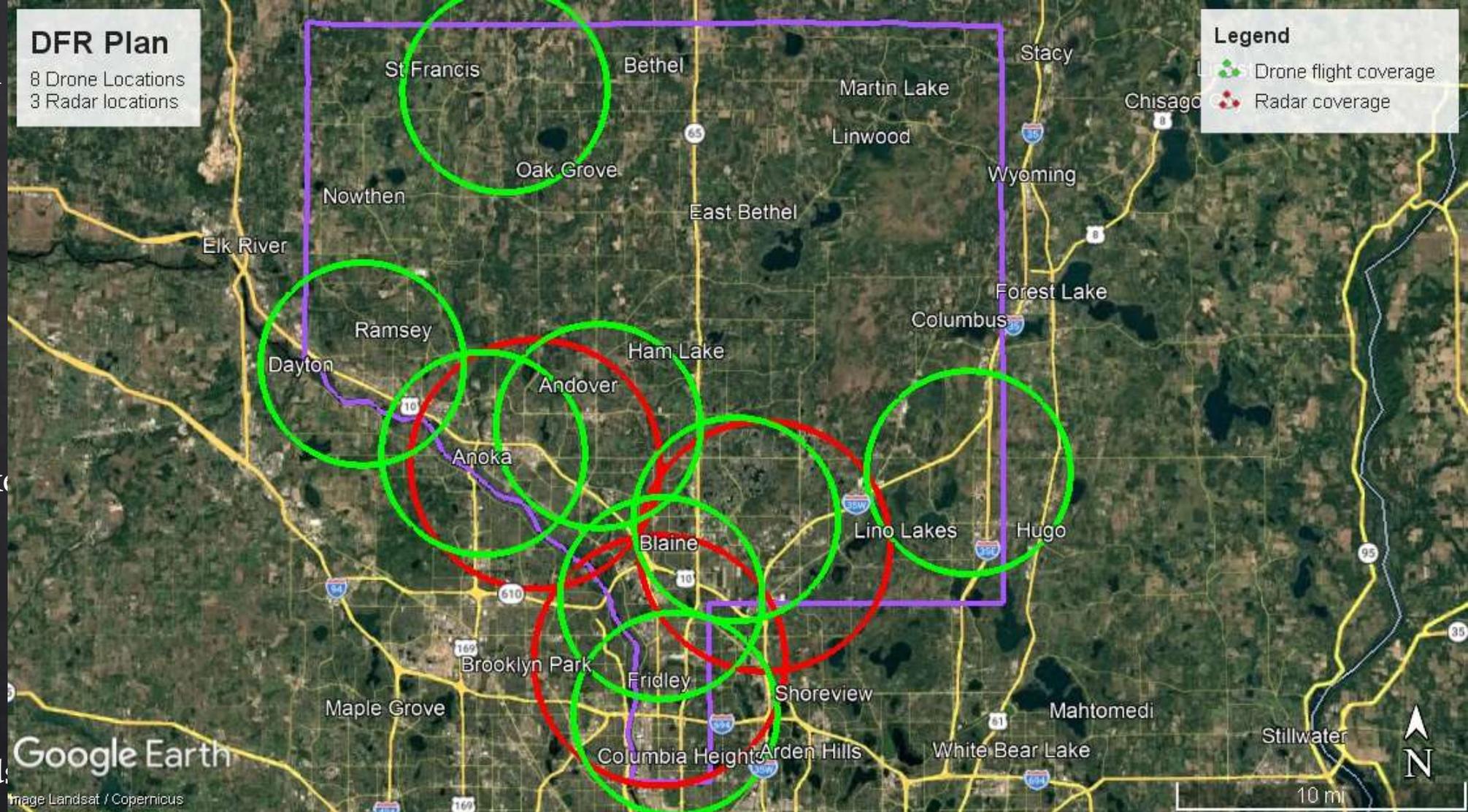Drone Dock Locations:
1. Medtronic building
2. Northtown - Blaine
3. ACSO
4. Anoka Public Works
5. Ramsey Fire Dept
6. Blaine PD
7. Eagle Brook Lino Lake
8. St Francis PD

Radar Locations:
1. Anoka County HHW Facility
2. Fridley PD
3. Riverdale Coon Rapids

Technology

- FlockOS premium subscription
  - This is the base operating system that the ALPR, Live View Cameras, and DFR will operate out of.
- Flock911
  - A product that will allow dispatch to stream 911 calls, audio, and real-time transcriptions directly to patrol squads' computers.
  - Also aids in the dispatching of DFR drones to the area of the caller.
- Flock Safety's Gateway
  - Similar to the Axon Core devices, this will allow us, with agreements, integrate 3rd party video streams into the Fusus Ecosystem.
- Freeform
  - This assists with a specialized search engine for all the camera systems we have pulled into the FlockOS ecosystem.

Additional Technology

Traffic Analytics Package

- Utilizing Flock cameras, this technology can provide real-time, actionable data on vehicle volumes, speed trends, and traffic flow in the area where the cameras are located.

Flock Nova

- A comprehensive data integration platform that connects all our disparate technology systems into one easily searchable system.

Cost / Funding

◇ Axon will remain an agency purchase

  ◇ This is an individual agency subscription for their Tasers, BWC, and Fleet cameras.

◇ Flock Safe County is slated to be an ACSO purchase for the first 2 years, and then the remaining 7 years are proposed to be funded through the JLEC via the same funding percentages as the PSDS system.

  ◇ Year 1 = $0.00

  ◇ Year 2 = $245,000

  ◇ Years 3-10 = $1,772,500 Annually

  ◇ ACSO would have a 5% responsibility, and ACECC would have a 60.58% responsibility for the cost of the annual fee for years 3-10

    ◇ 200 cameras countywide

    ◇ 12 community partner cameras

    ◇ 8 DFR Drone + Docking stations

    ◇ 3 Detect and Avoid Radar stations.

Cost / Funding

Total Package	$1,772,500.00
Anoka County Sheriff's Office	$88,625.00
Anoka Police Department	$46,262.25
Blaine Police Department	$97,842.00
Centennial Lakes Police Department	$20,561.00
Columbia Heights Police Department	$48,389.25
Coon Rapids Police Department	$107,059.00
Fridley Police Department	$67,177.75
Lino Lakes Police Department	$21,801.75
Ramsey Police Department	$30,132.50
St. Francis Police Department	$10,989.50
Spring Lake Park Police Department	$16,129.75
Anoka County Emergency Communications Center	$1,073,780.50
Fire	$143,749.75
	$1,772,500.00

Anoka County Total owed   1,162,405.50

Questions?