



Office of the Town Manager
Frank Cassidy

Warrenton Town Council

Carter Nevill, Mayor
Roy Francis, Ward 1
William Semple, Ward 2
Larry Kovalik, Ward 3
Michele O'Halloran, Ward 4
Eric Gagnon, Ward 5
Paul Mooney, At Large
David McGuire, At Large

STAFF REPORT

Council Meeting Date:	September 9, 2025
Agenda Title:	Flock Cameras and VSP H.E.A.T. Grant
Requested Action:	Acceptance of Grant Funds from Virginia State Police H.E.A.T. Program
Department / Agency Lead:	Police
Staff Lead:	Timothy M. Carter, Chief of Police

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This staff report provides an overview of the Flock Safety LPR (License Plate Reader) system and the Virginia State Police H.E.A.T. (Help Eliminate Auto Theft) grant.

BACKGROUND

The Warrenton Department applied for and received acceptance regarding a \$10,000 grant from the Virginia State Police H.E.A.T. (Help Eliminate Auto Theft) Program, reimbursing agencies for the purchase of equipment that will be utilized for investigating vehicle thefts or promoting the prevention of vehicle theft. The department plans to utilize these funds for the purchase of three Flock Falcon products, which provide real-time intelligence with its license plate reader technologies. The tool is also portable which enables the agency to deploy this technology in the areas where these types of crimes are occurring. This funding will provide all hardware and software of the system for a term of one year.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That Council accepts the \$10,000 grant from the Virginia State Police H.E.A.T. (Help Eliminate Auto Theft) Program.

Further, that Council approves a budget increase in the amount of \$10,000 to accurately reflect the total amount of grant funds received and the corresponding program costs.

Service Level/Collaborative Impact

The Warrenton Police Department currently has 18 sworn officers assigned to patrol working 24 hours a day, 365 days per year. The Town of Warrenton is approximately 4.7 square miles of land mass and is located at the junction of U.S. Routes 15, 17, 29, and 211. Warrenton is both a popular destination and a pass-through/stopover for travelers, particularly those heading to locations off U.S. Route 211 which cannot be easily accessed from the north, south, and east of Warrenton without passing through town. Additionally, residential growth in and around Warrenton has created a boom of vehicular traffic in the last several years.

Purchase of the Flock Safety LPR Camera System would assist our officers as additional eyes on the roadways. This technology will aid investigative efforts for many crimes to include auto theft and auto parts theft. Flock Safety offers real-time alerts and advanced recognition capabilities. These LPR cameras would be strategically positioned to provide the best coverage and most efficient assistance to our law enforcement officers.

In addition to the Town of Warrenton, the Flock Safety System will benefit other jurisdictions. Vehicles traveling to and from the counties of Fauquier, Culpeper, Prince William, Loudoun, and Rappahannock routinely come through the Town of Warrenton. Strategically positioned LPRs, in conjunction with the same network from counties and towns in our area, will serve to provide a stronger surveillance network by alerting law enforcement if a stolen vehicle were to pass through. This becomes a force multiplier for all law enforcement agencies in our region.

The Flock LPR camera system is proven to reduce crime through deterrence, evidence collection, vehicle tracking, and more efficient investigations. The Warrenton Police Department has investigated numerous stolen vehicle cases from our local automobile dealerships, as well as stolen catalytic converters and other theft cases from private residences. Flock Safety will aid in the investigation and recovery of stolen property for these cases and assist in the prosecution of these perpetrators.

Policy Direction/Warrenton Plan 2040

The Police Department is focused on accomplishing the goals set forth in Plan Warrenton 2040. In particular, the Police Department meets goal CF-2 by its responsive nature and the effectiveness of its programs. Goal CF-2.1 is met through the Department providing an acceptable level of service through the proper staffing and acceptable response times. And Goal CF-2.5 is met through the Department's continued cooperative agreements with agencies like the Fauquier County Sheriff's Office to meet the public safety needs of the community.

Fiscal Impact

The initial cost for three Flock Falcon systems is \$11,950, which includes \$1950 in installation costs. The H.E.A.T. grant will cover \$10,000 and the remaining amount of \$1950 will be absorbed in the police department budget. After the initial one-year period, the re-occurring cost associated with this system is \$3,000 per year, per unit.

Legal Impact

There is no legal impact to the Town at this time.

ATTACHMENTS

None