



AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Agenda Date	FEBRUARY 13, 2024
Requested Action	APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2024-RXX; A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AND MANAGE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE CITY OF BOERNE AND FLOCK GROUP INC. FOR FLOCK SERVICE FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$XX.
Contact Person	Steve Perez Chief of Police Mike Raute, IT Director
Background Information	<p>Last year we came before City Council and brought forth an emerging technology in public safety cameras.</p> <p>As you may or may not know, for several years now, the city has installed public safety cameras, also known as surveillance cameras, at several locations throughout town. These cameras are installed for the purpose of enhancing public safety and security. The cameras are not used for issuing traffic violations of any kind, but only to monitor activity in areas around the city. The installation of the public safety cameras also takes a lot of collaboration and time between the IT, Police, and Electric departments.</p> <p>The primary purpose of public safety cameras is to deter criminal activity by creating a visible presence of law enforcement and providing evidence in case of crimes. The cameras are also used to monitor traffic and respond to emergencies and have proven to be helpful to the Boerne Police Department and for engineering and mobility studies.</p> <p>City Council last year approved the expansion to the public safety camera system by adding automated license plate reader software (Flock OS) and cameras (Falcon LPR) to the current public safety camera system, by adding Automatic License Plate Recognition (ALPR) cameras and software which has proven to provide several benefits to the city.</p> <p>ALPR systems automate the process of reading license plates, reducing the need for manual checks and allowing law enforcement agencies to process more information in less time. This can free up officers to focus on other tasks and improve overall efficiency.</p>

	<p>ALPR systems provide real-time alerts to law enforcement agencies when a vehicle of interest is identified, allowing officers to respond quickly and effectively to potential threats or criminal activity. ALPR systems enhance public safety, helping law enforcement agencies to identify and locate stolen vehicles, wanted suspects, and vehicles associated with criminal activity. It will also assist in identifying vehicles that are involved in Amber Alerts or other emergency situations.</p> <p>ALPR systems can be used to identify and track the movements of vehicles involved in criminal activity, helping law enforcement agencies to prevent and solve crimes. This includes everything from vehicle theft to drug trafficking and can significantly improve the effectiveness of investigations.</p> <p>ALPR systems can help city officials to better understand traffic patterns, travel times, and other transportation-related data. This can inform city planning and infrastructure investments, leading to improved transportation systems and better quality of life for residents.</p> <p>The use of the public safety cameras used by Boerne Police Department has proper guidelines in place to ensure that the use of these cameras do not infringe on the right of citizens. ALPR does not include facial recognition capabilities and does not capture personally identifiable information (PII). ALPR cameras capture wholly objective images of vehicles and license plates, providing a clear and actionable investigative lead.</p> <p>Flock Safety presented Police and IT Staff with a desirable approach last year and began deploying ALPR cameras throughout the community. The Flock program is an all-inclusive model for deploying APLR cameras.</p> <p>Flock Safety is the sole manufacturer and developer of the Flock Safety Camera. Flock Safety is also the sole provider of comprehensive monitoring, processing, and machine vision services which integrate with the Flock Safety Camera. There are several other differences between Flock and other ALPR companies. Most notably they are the only manufacturer and service provider that leases ALPR services. Others require the city to purchase equipment. The technology is also different because it captures motion and not just license plates.</p> <p>Flock Safety provided an affordable, infrastructure-free automatic license plate reading (ALPR) camera system for cities who want to reduce crime within a principled framework. Unlike traditional ALPR, Flock uses Vehicle Fingerprint™ technology to transform hours of footage into a searchable database to find the single piece of evidence needed, even when a license plate isn't visible.</p>
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	<p>Flock Safety installed and continues maintaining these cameras. The cameras can be installed almost anywhere, with solar power and LTE connectivity. Which will free up time for several departments who install and maintain the cameras currently.</p> <p>Flock Safety has also provided camera system solutions for a couple Homeowners Associations in Boerne which help to enhance the security of their neighborhoods by making cameras available to be purchased by the HOA and monitored by the police department. Which continues the HOA program started by Boerne Police Department a few years ago.</p> <p>At this time, we are requesting to allow the City to enter into a new contract with Flock Safety for the LPR cameras and software, on a 5-year contract that will lock in the current pricing and not increase to the proposed increase when the current contract ends in March.</p> <p>However, if in any of the five years we find that we cannot commit the funds in a future budget we can cancel the contract before entering another year of service. This provision is laid out in the contract under Section 11.16.</p> <p><u>Stats and other information from our Flock System:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The city currently has 24 total cameras up and running (5 Fixed LPR's, 19 on Flock OS on current city cameras)• We have 7 more fixed cameras waiting for approval to be installed, and up to 31 more we can attach to current city cameras.• We currently have three HOA's who are in the process of purchasing Flock cameras and they are (Herff Ranch, Menger Springs, and Esperanza)• Since installing the system, we have had 5 Felony Takedowns from stolen vehicle Flock Hits• We have also received the following hits in the last 30 days: 2 Felony Warrants, 7 Gang Member, 6 Protection Order, 4 Sex Offender, 3 Stolen Plate, 5 stolen Vehicle, and 23 Warrants. <p>In the last 30 days our system has logged 768,651 plate reads. That being 146,442 unique plates (no duplicates). This is from our 24 cameras alone.</p> <p>We currently have access to a network of cameras in different areas of the state and country totaling 1596 total cameras. This number is growing weekly.</p>
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Item Justification	<div> <input type="checkbox"/> Legal/Regulatory Obligation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure Investment </div> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reduce Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Customer Pull </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Service Enhancement </div> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mitigate Risk <input type="checkbox"/> Process Efficiency </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Master Plan Recommendation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>PUBLIC SAFETY</u> <u>TRAFFIC MONITORING</u> </div>
Strategic Alignment	<div>Safety & Security</div> <div>Fiscal Excellence</div>
Financial Considerations	<div>All Items are approved and accounted for in the FY 23-24 budget.</div> <div>Falcon LPR cameras \$34,600.00 – 12 cameras and implementation fees</div> <div>Flock camera operating system \$15,000.00 – Flock OS. This contract will lock the pricing in for 5 years.</div>
Citizen Input/Board Review	<div>N/A</div>
Legal Review	<div>TOASE has completed the review of the ALPR services agreement with Flock Safety</div>
Alternative Options	<div>Continue paying on one-year contracts and face cost to increase each year. Signing the contract locks pricing for the 12 cameras at \$2500.00 each and the OS at \$15,000.00 for Five years.</div>
Supporting Documents	<div>Agenda Item Summary Flock Safety Feb 12 2024</div> <div>Boerne PD Flock Agreement</div> <div>Boerne PD Exhibit A – Proposal</div> <div>Flock Safety Sole Source Letter</div> <div>Flock FAQs</div> <div>Flock Safety ALPR Privacy and Ethics</div>