

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

MEETING DATE

October 24, 2023

PRESENTED BY

Joel Hinkley, Matthew Freedman, City Attorney

AGENDA ITEM # IV.7

Flock Group, Inc. and City of Lynchburg - License Agreement & Contract

RECOMMENDATION

Information and Discussion

SUMMARY

The Lynchburg Police Department (LPD) started the implementation of a Real Time Crime Center and plans to add Flock Safety services. Flock Safety offers compatibility with Virginia's Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) to include Amber Alerts, Silver Alerts, Be-on-the-Look-Out (BOLO) advisories, and other items specifically related to vehicle information as a service. Flock Safety license plate reader (LPR) camera systems utilize proprietary software to determine a vehicle's make, model, and color by capturing images of license plates. This software integrates with our current Axon Evidence system used for both body cameras and in-car cameras. Flock Safety will help address auto-theft and assist the LPD by using stationary cameras. It has already proven to be effective in other jurisdictions in locating vehicles and individuals involved in criminal activity, stolen vehicles, and stolen license plates. In these situations, Flock Safety provides an alert to authorized users of CJIS, in conjunction with the Virginia Criminal Information Network (VCIN) and the National Crime Information Center (NCIC). Flock Safety also provides a supplemental gun-shot detection system, called Raven. Raven provides up to a one-mile radius gun-shot detection capability per installed location. Raven will provide an alert to the LPD upon detecting a gun shot. This tool will assist with the timely investigation of shots fired incidents in our community. The Virginia State Police have provided \$10,000 in funding to us through the Help Eliminate Auto Theft (HEAT) program for Flock Safety. Additional funding is included in the FY24 budget. To move forward with this program, the approval of a right-of-way license agreement is needed to install the cameras on City-owned property. The cameras will be installed on existing City-owned signs and poles in the right-of-way and on City property. The LPD worked with Flock Safety, the City Attorney, and City Traffic Engineering to develop the license agreement. There are 15 proposed camera locations. The LPD will install the cameras at main entry points into the City and other high-volume traffic locations using traffic counts provided by the Virginia Department of Transportation.

PRIOR ACTION(S)

None

FISCAL IMPACT

FY23 - \$11,400 (\$10,000 of this was reimbursed by the Virginia State Police HEAT program)
FY24 - \$55,750 allocated

CONTACT(S)

Ryan Zuidema, Chief of Police
Joel Hinkley

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. Resolution - Flock Group, Inc. License
2. License Agreement (Flock Group, Inc.)
3. Exhibit A - Flock Group, Inc. & LYH Amended Contract

REVIEWED BY

Ryan Zuidema, Chief of Police

Date: October 19, 2023



Wynter C. Benda, City Manager

Date: October 19, 2023



Alicia Finney, Clerk of Council

Date: October 19, 2023