

Hello MVCC T-Committee Members,

I hope all of you are well.

Our office has been made aware of the MVCC's T-Committee considering a motion that would call for a cessation of the use of Flock Automatic License Plate Reader (ALPR) cameras as a tool to aid law enforcement. We know how sensitive a subject this is for many Angelenos, particularly in the wake of the ICE immigration raids last year. I wanted to clarify some important points about these cameras that should be considered alongside this motion.

Flock is a third-party partner that supplies the hardware for the ALPR cameras. The data collected by the cameras is owned by the local municipalities, not Flock. In this case, that would be LAPD. Other cities in LA County, such as Santa Monica and Beverly Hills, also utilize Flock ALPRs as a tool to aid law enforcement.

Flock LPR cameras take a point-in-time image of the rear of vehicles on public roadways. Images that don't match a specific search or alert connected to an investigation are never accessed and are automatically deleted.

LAPD is in compliance with California Senate Bill 34 – the California State Law Governing the use of Automated License Plate Reader Data. There is Department policy on ALPR Data Retention, access controls, auditing and accountability. All ALPR data captured by the LAPD is owned by LAPD and not shared with any agency outside the State of California, nor is it shared with any Federal Agencies. LAPD conducts a monthly audit to ensure all ALPR inquiries fall within policy and for transparency, LAPD submits an annual comprehensive technology report to the Police Commission at the beginning of each year.

It is worth noting that, without technology such as these ALPR cameras, the assailant in the vicious Venice Canals attack in 2024 that left one person dead and another critically injured would have likely never been caught. As a result of utilizing technological resources, an arrest was made, allowing an opportunity for justice to be served.

In a space where LAPD is dangerously understaffed, it is critical to make use of technological resources to supplement where we do not have uniformed officers. If any Board/Committee members or neighbors have any questions or concerns about these cameras and their usage, they are encouraged to connect directly with their Mar Vista Field Deputy, Matt Halden (matthew.halden@lacity.org). We will answer all questions to the best of our ability.

We look forward to our continued partnership with the MVCC.

Best Regards,

Matt Halden

Field Deputy, Council District 11

Mar Vista, Del Rey