



SAN CARLOS FY 2025-27 BUDGET BASE BUDGET EXPENSE AMENDMENT PROGRAM CHANGE FORM

Priority Tracking	
Department Priority	1
City Manager Approved	Y

PROGRAM: 01413000 Police Services
REQUEST TITLE: San Carlos Flock Safety Expansion

Request Summary

The San Carlos Police Bureau of the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office ("Sheriff's Office"), is requesting funding for six additional Flock Safety automated license plate readers (ALPR) to enhance coverage throughout the city. The total addition cost would be \$39,900 over the two-year contract.

Factors Driving the Request for Change

- Over the past two years, the city's Flock Safety ALPR readers have been fully operational. During this time, patrol deputies and detectives have utilized the data to solve criminal investigations, which included stolen vehicles, organized retail theft, property crimes, and violent offenses. Staff have also recommended new locations where additional ALPR units could enhance investigations. These areas include El Camino Real, Old County Road, and Industrial Road.
- If approved, the proposal would improve the city's ALPR coverage, especially in the El Camino Real corridor and east side. Better coverage will generate more investigative leads, potentially resulting in more successful investigations being solved and increased clearance rates.
- All ALPR successes are tracked in the crime reporting system. In the last fiscal year, there were 28 investigations in which the ALPR proved crucial for solving criminal cases. With an increase in ALPR use, we could demonstrate a rise in successful investigations.
- As part of the Sheriff's Office strategic plan, 75 Flock Safety ALPRs were added to unincorporated areas including North Fair Oaks, Emerald Hills, and the North and South Coast. Seeking additional ALPRs in our contract city of San Carlos would align with our plan to provide increased coverage to the communities we serve. Since San Carlos contracted with Flock Safety in 2022, the surrounding cities of Redwood City and Belmont have also partnered with Flock Safety. Collaborating with the Belmont Police Department and Redwood City Police Department, along with input from our deputies assigned to San Carlos, these additional six ALPRs would be strategically placed to ensure maximum coverage throughout the city.

Alternatives

If cost is a concern, the number of cameras could be reduced to four.

Cost Summary

- The cost for six additional ALPRs would increase the Flock Safety contract by \$39,900.
- There are no off-setting revenues or cost savings associated with this project. However, since ALPR data is utilized in nearly every case, cost savings could be viewed as a reduction in the staff time (overtime) spent identifying suspect vehicles.

Line Item Description	Org Number	Object Code	FY25-26 Amt	FY26-27 Amt
Operating Expense (list detail description below)				
Additional cameras	01413000	520320	22,000.00	19,000.00
Total Operating Costs			22,000.00	19,000.00
<i>Use of Trust Fund Savings</i>			(22,000.00)	(19,000.00)
Net Operating Costs			\$ -	\$ -