

CITY OF SEGUIN

To: City Council
From: Jason Brady, Chief of Police
Date: October 16, 2024
Subject: Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Professional Services Agreement in the amount of \$34,650 with Flock Group, Inc. for License Plate Readers to be installed throughout the city.



It's real.

Historical Background

The city is home to a diverse and rapidly growing population. According to the United States Census, Seguin's population has grown more than 22% since 2020, and now includes more than 36,000 people. With this rapid growth has come a rise in crime, with many cases remaining unsolved. While the city's overall poverty rate is nearly 18%, according to the US Census Bureau, many areas of the city are historically disadvantaged and suffer from a lack of economic development. Victims of catalytic converter theft in these lower income areas of the city are not able to equip their homes and businesses with surveillance equipment and experience significant financial impacts when these thefts lead to the loss of transportation for both personal and business purposes. When catalytic converters are stolen from vehicles, they are no longer safe to operate. In the case of privately owned vehicles, this often leads to victims missing work, failing vehicle inspections, and further monetary loss moving forward after the initial theft. In the case of business or company vehicles, catalytic converter theft can result in business down time, and loss of income for both the employees and the business, due to missed deliveries or canceled service appointments.

Action Requested

For this project the Seguin Police Department (SPD) is seeking stationary License Plate Recognition (LPR) cameras to be mounted in locations around the city that have been identified based on the volume of traffic, and prevalence of criminal activity. These cameras will be positioned in such a way that they can monitor and potentially identify traffic entering and leaving the city in our high-traffic corridors, as well as in high-crime areas. These cameras can identify vehicles much faster and more efficiently than the human eye and can alert our officers to vehicles flagged on a number of law enforcement databases. LPR cameras become a visible deterrent to crime and free up officers to patrol a larger geographic area while the camera continues to automatically track and identify vehicles in these areas.

Procurement Methodology & Funding Source

Funding for this project has been secured through the Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority Catalytic Converter Grant.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends the agreement be executed with Flock Group, Inc. in the amount not to exceed \$34,650.

ATTACHMENTS

1. City Of Seguin Resolution
2. TXDOT ROW + TCIC Process
3. Texas Department of Public Safety LPR User Agreement
4. Texas Department of Transportation Multiple Use Agreement
5. Exhibit A (Camera Locations)