

Attachment "F"

COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Council File: 26-0803

Position: Oppose Unless Amended

Subject: Flock Safety and Automatic License Plate Reader Technology

The Bel-Air Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council opposes Council File 26-0803 unless it is amended to provide the City of Los Angeles with an opportunity to correct the identified contractual, privacy, and data-sharing deficiencies before requiring the removal of existing Flock Safety cameras.

BABCNC recognizes the legitimate concerns regarding ownership, access, sharing, retention, cybersecurity, auditing, and the protection of civil liberties. These concerns require enforceable safeguards and meaningful oversight. However, they do not justify abandoning a valuable public-safety and investigative tool without first considering less restrictive and more targeted remedies.

Flock's interagency data-sharing functionality is customer-controlled. Sharing configurations may be limited, revoked, or denied by the contracting agency. The central issue is therefore not simply whether the technology permits sharing, but who controls the settings, who may authorize access, how each search is documented, and whether the City can independently audit and enforce those restrictions.

The City of West Hollywood reviewed similar concerns and decided to retain Flock while directing its staff to negotiate stronger contractual protections and implement additional policy, transparency, and oversight safeguards. West Hollywood's agreements expressly provide that the data collected through its ALPR system is owned and controlled by the City. Its review also confirmed that sharing relationships are established and managed by the customer and may be limited or revoked at any time.

West Hollywood's approach demonstrates that concerns regarding data ownership and interagency access may be addressed through stronger contracts, properly configured system controls, auditing, and municipal oversight without automatically terminating Flock or eliminating ALPR technology.

BABCNC urges the City of Los Angeles to require any amended or replacement agreement with Flock to:

1. Establish that all LAPD-generated ALPR data is owned and controlled exclusively by the City of Los Angeles.
2. Require interagency sharing to remain disabled unless affirmatively authorized by designated LAPD officials for a lawful and documented law-enforcement purpose.
3. Prohibit Flock from independently accessing, sharing, selling, monetizing, analyzing, or using City data for artificial-intelligence training, product development, commercial purposes, or any unrelated secondary use.
4. Require complete audit logs identifying each user, search, requesting agency, stated purpose, authorization, and resulting disclosure.

5. Establish enforceable requirements governing data retention, automatic deletion, cybersecurity, breach notification, subcontractors, legal demands, and City oversight.
6. Provide for immediate suspension, termination, indemnification, and other appropriate remedies in the event of unauthorized access, use, retention, or disclosure.

BABCNC supports allowing Flock a limited opportunity to execute and demonstrate compliance with an amended agreement incorporating these protections. LAPD access may remain suspended until the agreement is completed and the required technical controls are independently verified.

If Flock declines or fails to meet these requirements within a reasonable period established by the City, BABCNC supports transitioning the affected camera locations to another qualified vendor that can satisfy the City's public-safety, privacy, cybersecurity, and legal requirements.

Accordingly, BABCNC urges the City Council to amend Council File 26-0803 by replacing its categorical prohibition on future Flock agreements and mandatory removal plan with a time-limited process requiring:

- Negotiation of an enforceable amended agreement;
- Verification of data ownership and sharing controls;
- Independent review of compliance and system configuration;
- A public report on the results; and
- Vendor transition only if Flock refuses or fails to comply.

A balanced approach can protect civil liberties and data privacy while preserving ALPR technology as an important investigative resource for an understaffed police department and the communities it serves.