

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2024**

**MINUTE ORDER NO. 25**

**SUBJECT: SHERIFF - RECEIVE A PRESENTATION ON AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE RECOGNITION CAMERAS IN UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

The San Diego Sheriff's Office (Sheriff's Office) strives to utilize technology to enhance its public safety service delivery for the communities of San Diego County. A tool that helps support this mission is Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) camera technology. ALPRs as investigative tools are a force-multiplier when it comes to crime prevention, public safety, and efficiency. ALPR cameras capture color images of license plates within its field of view. According to the Auditor of the State of California, ALPR technology has existed since the 1970s, yet widespread adoption by U.S. law enforcement agencies began only in the mid-2000s. This resource has been used to assist law enforcement with identifying stolen vehicles, tracking arsonists, finding suspects, searching for missing persons, and assisting in criminal investigations.

Pursuant to California Senate Bill 34 (2015), a public agency that operates or intends to operate an ALPR system shall provide an opportunity for public comment at a regularly scheduled public meeting of the governing body of the public agency before implementing the program.

Today's request is for the Board of Supervisors to receive the Sheriff's Office presentation on its intent to procure and use Automated License Plate Recognition cameras in the unincorporated areas of San Diego County, such as but not limited to Alpine, Borrego Springs, Campo, Fallbrook, Julian, Lakeside, Ramona, Rancho San Diego, Rancho Santa Fe, 4S Ranch, and Valley Center, and allow for the public to provide comment.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**SHERIFF**

Pursuant to California Senate Bill 34, receive the Sheriff's Office's presentation on its intent to procure and use Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) cameras in the unincorporated areas of San Diego County and allow for public comment.

**EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The San Diego Sheriff's Office (Sheriff's Office) provides law enforcement services that strive to protect every person's right to life, liberty, and safety. It is the policy of the Sheriff's Office to be transparent in its use of technology to include Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) cameras. Decisions regarding the use, procurement and deployment of technology is inclusive of the public's welfare, safety, and civil rights. The Sheriff's Office also strives for equitable outcomes in our communities, having ALPRs assist in finding missing persons; finding suspects of violent crimes to include arson, assault, and murder; and mitigating the threat to our communities.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

By enhancing the delivery of law enforcement services, the Sheriff's Office is furthering the County's Sustainability Goal of protecting the health and wellbeing of everyone in the region. ALPRs provide a force multiplier for law enforcement agencies by expediting the search of vehicles and individuals tied to a criminal investigation or people who are at-risk. Increasing investigative abilities provides a benefit for all San Diego County residents and visitors.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no direct fiscal impact associated with today's presentation on the utilization of ALPRs in unincorporated areas of San Diego County. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

## **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

### **ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Desmond, seconded by Supervisor Vargas, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended.

AYES: Vargas, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

NOES: Anderson

State of California)  
County of San Diego) §

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



**Signed**  
by Andrew Potter