

What the Flock?

In 2020, our HOA Board began researching practical ways to enhance neighborhood safety and provide law enforcement with useful investigative information when crimes occur.

After many months of review and public discussion at our meetings, along with homeowner permissions for needed easement placement locations, our subdivisions partnered with Flock Safety in 2021, a national public safety technology provider that supports community safety through **automatic license plate reader (ALPR) cameras**. Because license plates are often important evidence in property crimes such as home and vehicle break-ins, ALPR data can help law enforcement identify vehicles connected to an incident.

Lots of speculation in the press lately about Flock Automatic License Plate Reader Cameras let's clarify what they do and what they don't to put the rumors to bed.

Flock Safety operates ALPR camera networks used by law enforcement and private communities. They capture vehicle appearance data and license plates, automatically deleting unflagged logs after a default of 7 days. They do not use facial recognition or track individuals on foot.

What Flock Cameras Actually Do?

- **Capture Vehicle Attributes:** Photograph passing cars, recording license plates, make, model, color, body style, and unique identifiers like bumper stickers or temporary tags.
- **Match "Hotlists":** Instantly cross-reference plates against state/national crime databases for stolen vehicles, Amber and Silver Alerts to notify police in real-time.
- **Log Traffic Data:** Store vehicle sighting timestamps and locations in a searchable encrypted database accessible by contracted law enforcement agencies. As about 70% of crimes involve a vehicle the ALPR's help to generate investigative leads and solve crime.
- **Enforce Safeguards:** Require formal case codes for database queries, employ automated audit tracking to flag abnormal officer search behavior, and support customizable data-sharing/offense filters between jurisdictions.

What Flock Cameras Do Not Do?

- **No Facial Recognition:** The software does not scan, identify, or catalog faces of drivers or passengers.
- **No Permanent Storage for Ordinary Traffic:** Unflagged data automatically expires and is permanently purged from the encrypted cloud servers after 7 days, unless saved into "Evidence Mode" for an active criminal investigation.
- **No Direct ICE Connection:** The company states it has no active data-sharing contracts with federal immigration enforcement (like ICE), though local agencies can manually share specific data under local rules.
- **No Tracking People on Foot:** The fixed-position cameras are engineered strictly to capture vehicular traffic on roadways and parking lot entrances, not pedestrian movements.

See our website for links to more information.