

From: Steven Hellyer <StevenH@kcha.org>
Subject: Flock Cameras & ALPR Technology
To: AskACCIS (on behalf of 'curtiss@klickitatcounty.org') <askaccis@accis-wa.org>
Sent: September 10, 2025 12:04 PM (UTC-04:00)
Good morning.

I know many jurisdictions use Flock cameras and other forms of automatic license plate recognition technology. We use Flock cameras at some of our properties to assist and coordinate with local law enforcement to increase the safety of our residents.

With the increased use of automatic license plate recognition technology by United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement, coupled with reports of immigration and customs enforcement agents obtaining access to Flock national lookup system by asking local officers to share ALPR results informally, we have been evaluating how our usage of the technology may put our agency at risk of non-compliance of the Keep Washington Working Act.

We've been evaluating strategies such as strengthening existing memorandums of understanding with local law enforcement agencies and building contract language into our Flock contract that provide 90-day notice if there was a federal legal action requiring access to our data. We've have already limited our data sharing to agencies we partner with, and understand Flock has put in place features limiting the use of the cameras for immigration enforcement purposes, but we know there are work-arounds and we cannot control how everyone with access to the system will use the data we generate with the cameras. Even with the protections we have put in place, and the changes we're considering, it does not change the fact automatic license plate recognition technology is at risk of mission creep.

I'm kind of curious, are any other agencies having similar conversations regarding the use of automatic license plate technology, particularly the use of Flock cameras?

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