

10/13/2026

26-458

RESOLUTION

WITHDRAWN

7-0

PURPOSE: RESOLUTION PROHIBITING CITY USE OF AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE READER TECHNOLOGY FOR CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS ABSENT COMMON COUNCIL AUTHORIZATION

INITIATED BY: DEPUTY MAYOR BUELOW

WHEREAS, automated license plate reader (ALPR) systems capture license plate information and may create searchable records concerning the time and location of vehicle travel; and

WHEREAS, the value of ALPR technology for criminal investigation purposes must be considered together with privacy, data-retention, access, sharing, public-records, secondary-use and misuse concerns; and

WHEREAS, ALPR information may be shared across jurisdictions or incorporated into larger networks, reducing the degree of practical control exercised by an individual municipality; and

WHEREAS, information collected for public safety purposes may also have potential secondary governmental or commercial uses, including traffic, transportation or public works analysis, raising additional questions regarding ownership and permitted use; and

WHEREAS, access to location-related databases creates the possibility of improper searches for personal reasons and requires safeguards, auditing and accountability; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council finds that policy governing surveillance technology should be established before the City acquires, deploys or renews such technology;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Oshkosh

1. The City of Oshkosh shall not purchase, lease, subscribe to, install, operate, or renew automated license plate reader technology ("ALPR") for use in criminal investigations unless subsequently authorized by the Common Council through adoption of a new resolution.

2. Any future proposal to authorize ALPR technology for use in criminal investigations shall be accompanied by confirmation that a written policy has been established addressing, at minimum: permitted purposes; access; retention; auditing; interagency sharing; secondary and non-law-enforcement uses; commercial use of City-generated data; and consequences for misuse.

3. Nothing in this resolution prevents the Common Council from considering future technology when a defined public need, appropriate safeguards and a clear governance framework are presented.