

most efforts. Additionally, the community meetings were well attended, and meaningful conversations were held with stakeholders who serve and advocate for more vulnerable populations.

Councilmember Schumacher inquired whether a natural disaster would need to occur within the timeframe in which the funds are allocated.

Alpha replied yes but clarified that if infrastructure had been damaged, it could be repaired as long as it was located within low- to moderate-income areas. However, under the 'urgent need', the Town could address issues outside of those areas but only 30% of the grant could be used for this purpose.

Councilmember Greer asked what types of repairs would be eligible.

Alpha responded that the funds can typically be used for improvements such as sidewalks, streets, lighting, bus shelters, sewer, and water systems. She also noted that the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program has a full matrix of eligible activities that could be shared with the Council.

Mayor Palguta noted that the Council has historically prioritized pedestrian safety and that the Town has been successful in adding sidewalks, particularly near schools. He requested that Town staff focus more closely on identifying specific gaps in the sidewalk network within the community.

Alpha mentioned that discussions have taken place and will continue with regards to exploring how these areas connect with the Town and to determine the best use of the CDBG funding.

Mayor Palguta commented on improving connectivity along Robert Road and Yavapai Road.

**2b. License Plate Reader Presentation - Consideration & Possible Action to (Review)  
[Presenter - Assistant Chief James Edelstein]**

Assistant Chief James Edelstein presented on the public safety camera program, including license plate readers (LPRs). He thanked the Council for supporting the program through grant acceptances and acknowledged staff members who have been instrumental in writing grants and taking care of the reporting. Assistant Chief Edelstein explained the history and evolution of policing methods, from manual observation to the current LPR system. He highlighted how the LPR system acts as a force multiplier, allowing for more efficient and effective law enforcement, and shared examples of how this LPR system has been beneficial to the Prescott Valley Police Department and the community at large.

Key points of the presentation included:

- The system provides immediate notifications to staff when a vehicle of interest passes a camera.
- The cameras enhance public safety by aiding in the detection and apprehension of aggressive drivers and individuals involved in serious crimes.
- The system has been successful in various cases, including stolen vehicle recovery, apprehension of wanted individuals, and prevention of potential violent crimes.
- There are currently 26 active LPR cameras throughout the Town.
- In addition to LPRs, there are 6 live view cameras at Mountain Valley Park, with plans for 2 additional pan-tilt-zoom cameras.
- The Prescott Valley Police Department is planning to implement a Real Time Operations Platform to integrate all camera systems.
- Community partnerships are being developed to potentially incorporate private security cameras into the system, such as trusted business cameras or HOAs.
- Regionalization for shared responsibility between agencies nationwide.
- Data retention is limited to thirty days, and there are strict policies and safeguards in place to prevent misuse.
- The program is largely funded through awarded grants, with only \$15,000 of Town funds used so far out of the \$152,000 annual cost.

Assistant Chief Edelstein presented preliminary data showing a 17% increase in arrests in the six months after implementing the system compared to the six months prior.

Councilmember Freund asked whether the next step for the live feed cameras would involve facial recognition software and if there were any plans to implement such technology.

Assistant Chief Edelstein advised that while discussions have taken place, facial recognition is not currently a capability of the system. If implemented in the future, its use would be guided by established policy and training.

Councilmember Freund asked whether it would be possible to isolate incidents involving the Flock Safety platform for statistical tracking on effectiveness.

Assistant Chief Edelstein responded yes and stated that he would look into how to incorporate the statistical component. He added that officers currently check a box to indicate when the Flock Safety platform is used.

Councilmember Schumacher asked whether, despite the thirty-day retention period, camera footage could be saved for a longer duration if necessary. She also inquired about the approximate size of the cameras and asked whether they are motion

activated. Lastly, she inquired if it would be more beneficial to have live cameras in the community and whether there are enough cameras.

Assistant Chief Edelstein responded that the short answer is yes and further explained that footage can be retained in the evidence system under certain circumstances, depending on the retention requirements for the specific case. He provided a visual estimate of the size of the cameras and indicated that the cameras are motion activated. He mentioned that they use traffic flow, crime, and crash data, along with artificial intelligence and other tools, to model what a full-scale system would look like. He indicated that there is a plan and provided an estimated annual cost for cameras.

Mayor Palguta asked who is responsible for deciding which vehicles or license plates are entered into the system.

Assistant Chief Edelstein shared that the decision lies with individual officers, who are trained on the system's parameters, and further explained the process. There are currently two license plate reader capable dash cameras in traffic.

Mayor Palguta asked whether aggressive drivers are aware they are in the system.

Assistant Chief Edelstein indicated he would verify and follow up on that but noted that the traffic team does not use the system for those purposes unless there are multiple complaints and they are unable to address the issue through direct enforcement.

Mayor Palguta commented that this is a valuable tool for officers and asked how Flock responds to concerns about privacy, specifically the perception that 'Big Brother is watching.'

Hamza Al Baroudi, Flock representative, indicated that Flock established strict parameters to ensure there is a clear audit trail and to prevent any misuse of the system.

Assistant Chief Edelstein further clarified that the system is not capable of measuring vehicle speeds and is not used for photo enforcement purposes.

**2c. Revisions Human Resources Policy Manual - Discussion Only [Shauna DeChant, Human Resources Director]**

Shauna DeChant, Human Resources Director, presented proposed amendments to the Human Resources Policy Manual. Director DeChant explained that an annual review is conducted to ensure compliance, consistency with business practices, and transparency across the organization.