

From:**Sent:** Friday, May 3, 2024 1:34 PM**To:** citycouncil <citycouncil@albanyca.org>**Subject:** Flock Camera System

Message submitted from the <City of Albany, CA> website.

Site Visitor Name: [REDACTED]**Site Visitor Email:** [REDACTED]

Dear City Council Members:

This message is in support of the of the Flock Camera system. I own a business on San Pablo Ave. and have witnessed a considerable amount of criminal behavior as well as absolutely crazy driving speeds. I think both would be much worse if we did not have such a great police force.

I believe that we should provide every tool available to law enforcement. I have heard arguments against such systems but the one I have heard most, which is privacy is not credible. Almost every business and many homes have video security cameras. Most residents are walking around with a camera in their pocket. We are being recorded and photographed everywhere, at least the sytems used by law enforcement have some ground rules.

Please vote to allow the installation of the Flock Camera system.

Sincerley,

Jas Sikand

Owner - Albany Hill Mini Mart

From:**Sent:** Monday, May 6, 2024 11:14 AM**To:** citycouncil <citycouncil@albanyca.org>**Cc:****Subject:** Agenda Presentation 8.1: ALPR System

Greetings Members of the Albany City Council.

On behalf of the Board and members of the Albany Chamber of Commerce, I write to express our support for the Flock Automated License Plate Reader system, item 8.1 on tonight's agenda.

Many of our members are small merchants and service providers for whom a burglary or other crime could be devastating. Our retail business community recently experienced a wave of vandalism and break-ins and believe an ALPR system could have helped the police identify the perpetrators. We hope it may also help identify frequent shop lifters. We are also aware that we are one of the last cities in the area to not have such a system and wonder if that fact actually increases exposure by making Albany look like an easier target. Ultimately, we understand that ours is a small Police Department and that it should leverage reasonable technology to increase its ability to be effective in protecting our community.

While we are as concerned with privacy as much anyone, we are comfortable with the protections in place with Flock Safety and the legal structure provided by the state of California. Some of our members voiced concern that these cameras could be used for traffic enforcement ("red light cameras"), but are assured they are not equipped to function in that manner, and in any case will not be used for that purpose.

I would also like to note that Police Chief Geissberger reached out to the Chamber and our businesses for feedback and to answer questions we may have had with the program. We very much appreciate his efforts to listen and be responsive to our concerns.

Consider this a full endorsement of the proposed program from the Albany Chamber of Commerce.

Thank you for your consideration and all that you do for our city.

Tod Abbott
Board of Directors
Albany Chamber of Commerce