



**CITY OF PLANO
COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM**

CITY SECRETARY'S USE ONLY		
<input type="checkbox"/> Consent	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory

Council Meeting Date:	July 23, 2012
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Department:	Puchasing
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Department Head	Diane Palmer-Boeck
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Agenda Coordinator (include phone #):	Teresa Shelstad x7539
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CAPTION

Approval of the purchase and installation of eight (8) "Car Detector" ALPR Systems (Automated License Plate Recognition System), including the necessary software licensing and conversion of one existing Platescan system, at a total of \$108,290.00 from Vigilant Video Inc., through an approved Houston Galveston Area Council (HGAC) cooperative purchasing agreement and authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents. (HGAC Contract Number EF04-11)

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

<input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OPERATING EXPENSE	<input type="checkbox"/> REVENUE	<input type="checkbox"/> CIP
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FISCAL YEAR: FY 2011-12	Prior Year (CIP Only)	Current Year	Future Years	TOTALS
Budget	0	489,300	0	489,300
Encumbered/Expended Amount	0	-186,348	0	-186,348
This Item	0	-108,290	0	-108,290
BALANCE	0	194,662	0	194,662

FUND(S): COPS-2010 CSPP GRANT FUND

COMMENTS: Funds are available in the 2010 COPS CSPP Grant Fund for the purchase and installation of eight (8) "Car Detector" ALPR (Automated License Plate Recognition) Systems, including the necessary software, licensing and conversion of one existing Platescan system, using federal grant funds. The remaining balance of the funds will be used for other expenditures as allowed within grant guidelines.

STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL: Purchasing equipment for the Police Department with federal grant funds relates to the City's Goals of Financially Strong City with Service Excellence and Safe Large City.

SUMMARY OF ITEM

Approval of the purchase and installation of eight (8) "Car Detector" ALPR Systems (Automated License Plate Recognition System), including the necessary software licensing and conversion of one existing Platescan system, at a total of \$108,290.00 from Vigilant Video Inc., through an approved Houston Galveston Area Council (HGAC) cooperative purchasing agreement. The City is authorized to purchase from a cooperative purchasing program with another local government or a local cooperative organization pursuant to Section 271 Subchapter F of the Local Government Code and by doing so satisfies any State Law requiring local governments to seek competitive bids for items.

List of Supporting Documents:	Other Departments, Boards, Commissions or Agencies
Memorandum	



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 11, 2012
TO: Diane Palmer-Boeck, Purchasing Department
FROM: *Gregory W. Rushin* Gregory W. Rushin, Chief of Police
SUBJECT: Award Recommendation: Vigilant Video License Plate Recognition Systems

Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) technology was first introduced in England in 1976 and has been used by both private and public sector entities throughout the world for many years. Current applications of ALPR technology outside of law enforcement include, but are not limited to, electronic toll collection on turnpikes; traffic management and congestion control systems; parking lot vehicle identification systems; border security; travel route analysis projects; fuel drive-away theft prevention and suspect apprehension; and automobile repossession efforts. Modern day ALPR systems rely upon optical character recognition (OCR) software to automatically extract the characters from images of vehicle license plates taken by roof or trunk-mounted cameras, compare them against a known "hot list", and alert the operator or remote user to any match that occurs. This data, along with the vehicle's location information as derived using GPS coordinates, is then stored for future reference on either a local or cloud-based server. Officers on routine patrol have traditionally "checked" vehicle registrations through visual verification and entry of the characters into a mobile computer, which can be difficult, inefficient, and unsafe to perform while driving. In contrast, the ALPR system installed on a patrol vehicle can vastly improve the efficiency of this process and free the Officer to perform other tasks, such as observing traffic behaviors and remaining alert to possible criminal activity in the area. Officer safety is also enhanced, as situational awareness can be better maintained and identification of a dangerous offender is much more likely using ALPR than through random, manual registration verifications. A typical vehicle-mounted ALPR system is capable of silently reading and comparing more than 1000 registration numbers per minute; only alerting the Officer when a match has occurred. Upon receiving notification of a possible match; the Officer must then manually confirm the information before it can be relied on for purposes of legal detention or arrest.



Since 2008, the Plano Police Department has utilized ALPR technology to assist Patrol Officers in the rapid detection of vehicles on our roadways that have been reported as stolen, involved in felony crimes, or otherwise related to a national, statewide, or regional law enforcement

broadcast (Amber Alert, Missing Person, Silver Alert, etc.). In addition to the benefits of real-time registration comparison against existing lists; information acquired through the use of this technology has also proven essential to the successful identification and/or apprehension of criminal suspects, sex offenders in prohibited areas, and persons with local warrants for unpaid fines. In 2011, the Police Department was awarded a federal child sexual predator grant for purchase of criminal investigative equipment, to include additional ALPR equipment. Since then, our current vendor, PlateScan, became insolvent, at which time we engaged in a joint effort with Frisco PD, Richardson PD, Collin County S.O., and various other area law enforcement agencies to procure a suitable replacement for this equipment. Five companies originally hosted regional product demonstrations (L3 Communications, PIPS, Vigilant Video, IRSA Video, and Elsig NA), and it was agreed that Vigilant Video offered the most cost effective and functionally robust ALPR system available. Frisco PD recently received approval for purchase of this product, and other area Cities are in the process of making similar recommendations to their governing bodies. Using only the grant funds already awarded to our Department, it is anticipated that we will be able to purchase five new mobile systems and two car-portable systems (for use on unmarked Cisd and Patrol vehicles). Vigilant Video has also offered to convert some of the existing PlateScan equipment in one vehicle to a Vigilant Video system, resulting in reduced cost for a total of six mobile and two car-portable units. Since the Vigilant Video solution is fully-hosted, no local servers or network infrastructure are required, meaning the only demand for support by our Technology Services Department will be to maintain a functional mobile computer with internet connectivity in each vehicle equipped with this ALPR equipment. Images and other data captured by ALPR systems will be stored for two years on secure National Crime Information Center (NCIC)-compliant servers, which are housed in the Washington, D.C. area data centers and carefully managed by Vigilant Video staff. Access to this data will be restricted, much like all other sensitive law enforcement data, to use only by authorized Police Department employees and those of agencies with data sharing agreements in place, for bona fide criminal justice purposes. Primary technical support will be provided solely by the vendor per the terms of an agreed-upon three year warranty.

The Police Department has received a quote from Vigilant Video for the purchase of eight (8) "Car Detector" ALPR systems, including the necessary software licensing, conversion of one existing PlateScan system, and warranty for three years, at a total initial cost of \$108,290 and annual subscription renewal rate of \$10,400, pursuant to an approved cooperative purchasing agreement (Houston Galveston Area Council Contract #EF04-11). This represents a highly competitive price and is believed to be the best value available for such a comprehensive ALPR solution. The Police Department strongly recommends this purchase. Failure to approve this request will result in a loss of available grant funds for this specific purpose. It will also result in a missed opportunity for enhanced effectiveness by the Police Department in its efforts to solve crimes, apprehend offenders, serve outstanding warrants, and recover stolen vehicles.