

SALT LAKE CITY ORDINANCE

No. _____ of 2026

(Salt Lake City Police Department's Use of Automatic License Plate Readers)

An ordinance amending Chapter 2.10 of the Salt Lake City Code to enhance transparency regarding the Salt Lake City Police Department's use of Automatic License Plate Reader Systems.

WHEREAS, the Salt Lake City Police Department operates an Automatic License Plate Reader ("ALPR") system and must comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws, including Utah Code provisions regulating automatic license plate reader systems and associated data; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the importance of utilizing modern technology to enhance public safety and support legitimate law enforcement purposes; and

WHEREAS, the City seeks to balance the operational benefits of ALPR technology with the need to protect privacy, civil liberties, and constitutional rights; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the importance of establishing policies to regulate the sharing of ALPR data, ensuring that any disclosures are limited to governmental entities, for criminal justice purposes, and are conducted in accordance with all applicable laws;

WHEREAS, the City intends to establish this regulatory framework to govern the use, access, retention, sharing, training, security, and auditing of the Police Department's use of the City's ALPR systems and data, and to ensure that in the event of any conflict between this ordinance and state or federal law, the more stringent standard shall prevail; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has considered the potential impacts on family health, stability, and formation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the City Council of Salt Lake City, Utah:

SECTION 1. That Article VII of Chapter 2.10 of the *Salt Lake City Code*, is hereby amended to retitle the article from “Body Cameras” to “Technology Use.” The codifier is hereby instructed to update the Chapter 2.10 index and make all other pertinent updates to reflect the change in title to Article VII from “Body Cameras” to “Technology Use.”

SECTION 2. That Chapter 2.10 of the *Salt Lake City Code*, is hereby amended to adopt Section 2.10.210 as follows:

2.10.210: Use of Automated License Plate Reader Systems:

A. Definitions.

1. “ALPR Data” means captured plate data which is captured by the City’s ALPR System.
2. “ALPR Systems” means a system of one or more mobile or fixed automated high-speed cameras used in combination with computer algorithms to convert an image of a license plate into computer-readable data.
3. “Captured plate data” means the global positioning system coordinates, date and time, photograph, license plate number, and any other data captured by or derived from an automatic license plate reader system.
4. “City’s ALPR System” means the ALPR system owned by the City and operated by the Police Department.
5. “Governmental entity” means the same as the term is defined in 41-6a-2002.
6. “Police Department” means Salt Lake City Police Department.

B. Authorized Use of ALPR Systems:

1. The Police Department may utilize ALPR systems subject to applicable federal, state, and local law, including limits on captured plate data collection, retention, and use.
2. The City’s ALPR System may not be used to:
 - a. conduct facial recognition;

b. target an individual based on the individual's exercise of rights protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution; or

c. discriminate against an individual based on the individual's race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, or genetic information.

C. Sharing ALPR Data:

1. The Police Department may share ALPR data with another governmental entity, in accordance with applicable law, pursuant to a memorandum of understanding that in substance contains the following:

- a. The receiving governmental entity and its authorized users may only access, use, retain, or disclose or otherwise process ALPR data for criminal justice purposes and as provided by Utah Code § 41-6a-2003, as amended or succeeded by future provisions. The receiving governmental entity shall not use or share ALPR data for illegal, criminal, or commercial purposes, or for monitoring individuals or vehicles based solely on activities protected by the First Amendment, including but not limited to religious services, political events, protests, or lawful assemblies.
- b. The receiving governmental entity is prohibited from transferring, selling, trading, or otherwise disseminating ALPR data to any private or governmental entity or to any individual, except as expressly permitted by the memorandum of understanding and this section. Notwithstanding this prohibition, ALPR data may be disclosed by a receiving governmental entity when the Police Department provides prior written consent for the specific disclosure, and only when the disclosure is consistent with all other requirements of this section and applicable law, including the limitation that ALPR data may only be used and disclosed solely for criminal justice purposes.
- c. Receiving governmental entity may share or disclose ALPR data for criminal justice purposes, and when the disclosure is necessary to further:
 - (1) A bona fide joint criminal investigation, or
 - (2) The prosecution of a criminal offense.

Any such disclosure may be made only to a government prosecutor or a certified peace officer acting in an official capacity and directly connected to the same investigation or prosecution or as otherwise required by applicable law in the pursuit of the prosecution of a criminal offense.

- d. The receiving governmental entity shall implement and maintain industry best practices to protect ALPR data from unauthorized access, accidental loss, destruction, unavailability, or damage.
- e. The receiving governmental entity shall ensure that personnel with access to ALPR data is assigned and uses a unique login credential, has completed all required training, and has been assigned appropriate permissions by the receiving governmental entity.
- f. The receiving governmental entity shall adopt, maintain, and enforce written policies ensuring compliance with the memorandum of understanding and shall hold personnel accountable for misuse, unauthorized disclosure, or other violations.
- g. The receiving governmental entity shall acknowledge and agree that, with respect to any ALPR data accessed, received, used, or disclosed under the memorandum of understanding, the receiving governmental entity is bound by and shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations that govern the Police Department's access to, use of, retention of, and disclosure of ALPR systems and captured plate data.
- h. The receiving governmental entity shall maintain an audit trail for each query of any ALPR data, including the associated case number and justification for access, and shall retain such audit information for not less than five years.
- i. The receiving governmental entity shall establish, maintain, and implement self-auditing procedures designed to monitor its compliance with the terms of the memorandum of understanding. The receiving governmental entity shall document the results of such audits in an annual written audit report which shall be made available to the Police Department upon request and retained by the receiving governmental entity for no less than 5 years. Receiving governmental entity shall promptly, and in no event later than 5

days after the discovery, provide a copy of any annual audit report which finds a material violation of the memorandum of understanding to the Police Department.

- j. The City shall be authorized to conduct independent audits or inspections of the receiving governmental entity's compliance with the memorandum of understanding, and the receiving governmental entity shall fully cooperate with any such audit.
- k. The receiving governmental entity shall notify the City within twenty-four (24) hours of any actual or suspected security breach involving captured plate data, and shall fully cooperate in the investigation and remediation of such breach, including immediate containment measures, preservation of forensic evidence, and coordination with the City regarding required disclosures.
- l. The receiving governmental entity shall maintain insurance consistent with City requirements.
- m. Upon termination of the memorandum of understanding, the City will discontinue system access to the ALPR data and the limitations in subsections C.1.b and c shall survive the termination.

2. The Police Department may share or disseminate captured plate data to further the prosecution of any criminal offense, including any disclosure or sharing necessary to fulfill associated legal obligations.

D. Training: The Chief of Police may designate personnel who have positions or job duties that warrant having access to the City's ALPR system. Such designated personnel shall complete training on applicable laws and Police Department policies in order to maintain access to the City's ALPR system.

E. Public Noticing: The Police Department shall ensure that any legally required special use permits are acquired and publicly posted as required by Utah Code §72-1-212, as amended or succeeded by future provisions.

F. Audits

1. To the extent otherwise permitted by law, the Police Department shall preserve sufficient data necessary to audit for compliance with its obligations created under this section.

2. The Police Department shall conduct quarterly audits of the City's ALPR system activity to ensure compliance with applicable laws and Police Department policies consistent with best practices as provided in their internal policies.

3. The Police Department shall conduct a comprehensive annual review of overall system use, access controls, data retention practices, and compliance trends. The results of the comprehensive annual audit shall be made publicly available on the Police Department's website.

G. Conflicts of Law: If any provision of this section conflicts with a provision of an applicable state or federal law or regulation, the more stringent requirement shall apply. Nothing in this section authorizes the collection, use, or dissemination of ALPR data beyond what is permitted by state or federal law.

SECTION 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately after it has been published pursuant to Utah Code § 10-3-711 and § 10-3-713.

Passed by the City Council of Salt Lake City, Utah this _____ day of _____, 202_.

Alejandro Puy, Council Chair

ATTEST:

Keith Reynolds, City Recorder

Transmitted to Mayor on _____.

Mayor's Action: _____ Approved. _____ Vetoed.

Erin Mendenhall, Mayor

ATTEST:

Keith Reynolds, City Recorder

Bill No. _____ of 202_.

Published: _____

Ordinance Salt Lake City Police
Department's Use of Automatic License
Plate Readers V.1

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Salt Lake City Attorney's Office

Date: 7/7/2026

By: /s/ Hannah Vickery

Hannah Vickery, *Senior City Attorney*