

CITY/POLICE ALPR INFORMATION

Overview – Hutchinson Police Services uses Axon Automatic License Plate Reader (ALPR) technology to capture objective evidence without compromising individual privacy. We utilize retroactive search to solve crimes after they have occurred, and we utilize real-time alerting in patrol vehicles to arrest wanted criminals, recover stolen vehicles and locate missing persons that are on various hotlists. We also retain vehicle and plate images for a period of time to perform searches when investigating reported crimes. In an effort to be fully transparent with the public, we have made the below information and policies available to the public.

ALPR Terms

Hotlist – A list of known license plates and vehicles of interest, which are stolen, wanted for or potentially associated with unlawful activity or missing persons.

Read Record – A record of a plate that was read that was not associated with any hotlist at the time it was captured (usage metrics that will be available in our transparency portal)

Hit Record – A record of a plate that was read that matched a plate number on a hotlist and generated an alert (usage metrics that will be available in our transparency portal)

The "System" – The system that the city uses is in place through a contract we have with Axon Enterprises Inc. The current contract was entered into by the City Council in the fall of 2025. The current contract is for 10 years. The City has four (4) fixed or stationary ALPR devices. These became active in June of 2026 and are located at the intersections of Highway 7 and Highway 22, Highway 7 and Vale Avenue, Highway 15 and 202nd Circle, and Highway 15 and County Road 89. Only one is currently working. The other 3 were damaged and are unusable at this time.

Along with the 4 stationary devices, every squad car, since 2023, has an ALPR camera mounted on them.

How the System Works – The ALPR cameras that are mounted on patrol vehicles capture license plate images as our officers move through normal traffic. The in-vehicle system checks each plate against official hotlists. When the system identifies a match, it sends an alert to the officer in real time.

Our stationary devices are designed to read every license plate coming towards it and traveling away from it.

Our in-office system lets authorized staff search plate reads related to reported crimes. This supports follow-up investigations and helps us close cases more efficiently.

What is Detected – License plate image, vehicle image, plate text, date, time and location.

What is Not Detected – Facial images, people, gender or race. It does not identify who is driving, their speed, or traffic violations, and cannot be used to prosecute people for traffic violations. The system also does not track individuals or provide continuous location history.

Acceptable Use Policy – Data is used for law enforcement purposes only. Data is city/police department-owned and is never sold to 3rd parties.

Prohibited Uses – Harassment, intimidation, usage based solely on a protected class (race, sex, religion, etc.), personal use.

Data Policy Access – All data searches require a valid search reason or case number which is captured in audit logs and stored indefinitely. Only trained personnel with approved permissions can access the data. The system uses role-based access to maintain security. Information can only be shared with other law enforcement agencies or prosecutorial agencies for official law enforcement purposes or as permitted by law.

Hotlist Policy – Hotlist alerts are required to be human-verified before taking action.

Data and Retention – The system captures plate numbers and basic vehicle details. Data is retained for 60 days.

Safeguards and Privacy – The system is only used by local law enforcement. The system is a closed network with agency-to-agency sharing capabilities only. The data stored is the City's only. Data is stored on the storage platform Evidence.com where multitudes of other private data are stored. Axon or anyone else for that matter would need the City's permission to share that information with anyone and Axon themselves does not have access to it. The police may share the information they gather with other local law enforcement agencies if they felt it might help a case, unless they are directed not to by administration or the city council. The City has a biennial audit done by a third party to review for any allegations of misuse of the system.

Are there Policies in Place for this system? – Yes, you can review our ALPR policies [here](#). It is statutorily required for the City/Police Department to have such a policy in place before this type of technology can be utilized. The City is also required by the BCA to notify them prior to the implementation of this technology, which has

been done.

Do you have usage statistics? – Not yet, we are working on making this information public and our policy department will have a transparency dashboard that can be reviewed by the public. We will let the public know when this becomes available.

Why use this Type of System? – It helps locate stolen vehicles, find wanted individuals, and support investigations by giving staff a way to review plate reads tied to reported crimes.

Is this Type of System Legal? – The City operates these cameras in accordance with Minnesota State Statutes [13.824](#) and [626.8472](#). All data collected through this system is classified as private data on individuals or nonpublic data unless the data are public under section [13.82, subdivision 2, 3 or 6](#), or are active criminal investigative data under section [13.82, subdivision 7](#).

Are there any Plans to Expand this System? – Not at this time. Any plans to expand upon what is currently in place would need city council approval.

Has or is this System Used to Assist Immigration Enforcement Conducted by the United States Government? – No

Does the Police Department use any other surveillance device other than ALPRs? – No

Do other City Departments use any other surveillance? – Yes, the City uses basic security cameras at most of our public buildings and in our public parks to assist the City in dealing with vandalism and damage to public property/buildings.