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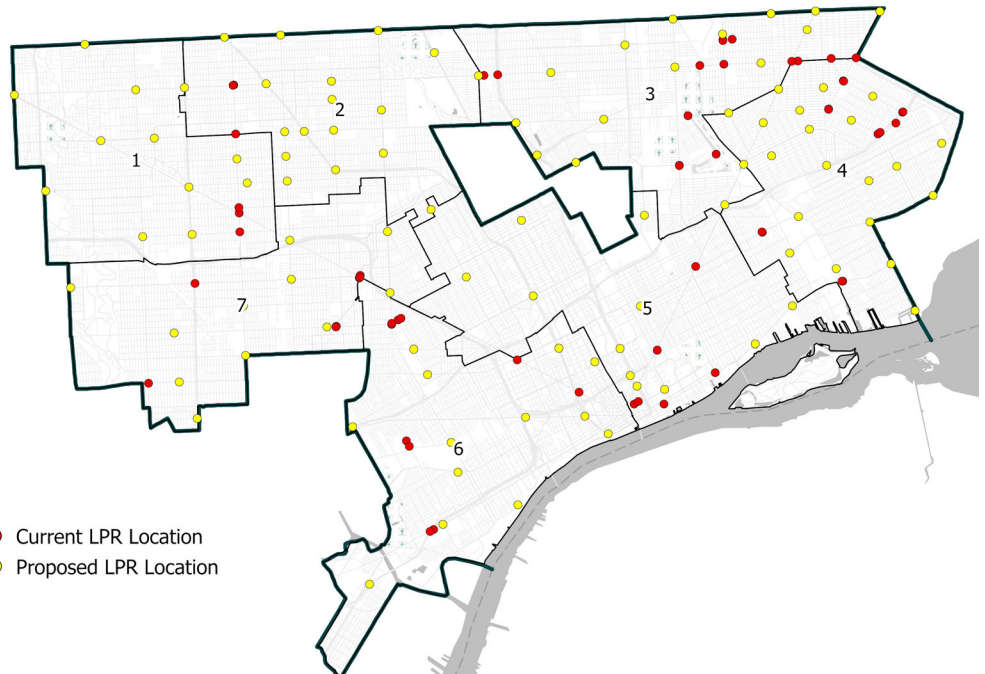
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UNDER REVIEW: Expanding DPD Use of License Plate Surveillance

The Board of Police Commissioners raised several questions as part of its review of the DPD request to spend \$5 million to expand its use of License Plate Readers (LPRs) to help prevent auto thefts and apprehend crime suspects. DPD currently uses mobile and stationary LPRs. Some are the BOPC questions and DPD responses are provided below. The BOPC welcomes public comments or suggestions about LPRs and surveillance technology at public meetings or by email to bopc@detroitmi.gov.

LPRs: Preliminary BOPC Questions and DPD Responses

- 1. How many LPRs are currently in use?**
(DPD currently has) 85 stationary Genetec LPR cameras; 110 mobile Genetec LPR cameras (mounted in 55 vehicles); three mobile trailers with Genetec LPR cameras; and 33 Flock LPR cameras.
- 2. What are the rough locations of the current LPRs (in comparison to the proposed LPR locations map in the specs document)? Also, can the map in the new specs report be provided larger and more clear, perhaps as a separate file?** DPD provided three maps for current, proposed, and both current and proposed locations. Maps are available at www.detroitmi.gov/BOPC. This is the combination map for **CURRENT** and **PROPOSED** locations, which shows about 50 Red and about 100 Yellow dots.



BOPC & Civilian Oversight of the Police Department: LPRs and Surveillance Preliminary BOPC Questions and DPD Responses

3. Explain current functionality of LPRs in the field.

Stationary Genetec LPRs are located at intersections and are based on specific equipment. Mobile LPRs in vehicles are also based on specific equipment. Both of these capture photos of plates and of vehicles from behind the vehicle. Flock LPRs are located at intersections and are based on specific software. These Flock LPRs capture photos of plates and vehicles from behind the vehicle. Both of these technologies provide alerts when a captured plate matches that of a stolen or wanted vehicle.

4. Give a few examples that distinguish LPRs from other technology, i.e. traffic mounted cameras, patrol car mounted LPRs, etc. (We want to use this to reduce the public confusing the technologies.

While some cameras are able to provide a clear image of a license plate, they require a person to view that image and then use that image to read the license plate. Many cameras are positioned to provide an overview and do not provide close-up images than be used to read a license plate. LPRs of all kinds (fixed or vehicle mounted, hardware or software driven) are able to provide a notification with the plate number when the system matches it to information on a stolen or wanted vehicle. This information is searchable, so it is possible to find where a stolen or wanted vehicle has been recently.

5. Provide the current annual cost for LPRs, and new budget for LPRs with expanded specs.

Total contract amount: \$5 million

Total deployment cost: \$3.8 million

Note: The annual cost for fixed LPRs is \$3,000.00. Outside of the initial purchase of the LPR cameras, there is not recurring cost for LPR cameras within a vehicle.

6. Give the overall rationale for expansion in numbers and functionality.

LPRs are a powerful tool for both real-time and investigation support. Alerts generated when the system matches a license plate to that of a stolen or wanted vehicle allow the Department to quickly research and confirm that lead. Once confirmed, officers can be quickly dispatched to attempt to recover the vehicle. Once a vehicle is identified through an investigation, LPR information can be searched to confirm if that vehicle was or was not in proximity to that crime, and if so, where it has been in recent days.