

Filed September 29, 2026 by email to the Police Records Division (no request number is assigned; the reference is ours); our reference ROP-2026-09-29-A.

FOIA request under the Michigan Freedom of Information Act, MCL 15.231 et seq.
Flock Safety / automated license plate reader (ALPR) program records: documents.

The Records page asks for the Department's FOIA request form; this request contains each item the form calls for (name, address, telephone, email, and the records requested). If the Department requires the form itself, please tell me and I will return it the same day.

I request copies of the following records of the City of Royal Oak concerning the Royal Oak Police Department's use of Flock Safety automated license plate reader technology. Please provide each record in the electronic format in which it is kept (PDF, XLSX, CSV, or similar) by email or through your records portal; for any record held only on paper, a scanned PDF is preferred. I stipulate electronic delivery of the records and of your response (MCL 15.234(1)(c); MCL 15.235(10)) and am not requesting paper copies or physical media. Where a record is already posted on your website, the specific webpage address is sufficient (MCL 15.234(5)). If an item is held by another department or office of the City of Royal Oak rather than the Royal Oak Police Department, please forward that portion to the office that holds it, or tell me which office does, rather than deny it on that ground; items 1 and 2 are likely held by the clerk, finance, or purchasing office as well as the Royal Oak Police Department.

Time frame: January 1, 2020 through the date this request is received. If the City of Royal Oak's first Flock agreement is dated later than 2020, no search of earlier years is needed.

1. Contracts and pricing. Every agreement between the City of Royal Oak and Flock Group Inc. (Flock Safety) or a reseller: order forms, master terms, data-sharing memoranda of understanding, quotes, amendments, renewals, and all invoices, including any for cameras paid for by a department or fund of the City of Royal Oak other than the Royal Oak Police Department.

2. Procurement and approval. Purchase orders; any request for proposals, bid tabulation, or sole-source justification; the budget line item or account and any grant award, application, or grant report that funded the program; and the agenda item, staff memo, minutes, and recorded vote of any council, board, or commission action approving the initial purchase and each later expansion or renewal.

3. Policy. The ALPR or Flock policy, standard operating procedures, hot-list criteria, and audit policy in effect at any point in the time frame, including superseded versions; and any list of approved search reasons and any record showing whether a search reason is required.

4. Data sharing. Any agreement, memorandum of understanding, or written authorization under which another organization may access the Royal Oak Police Department's Flock data or the Royal Oak Police Department may access another organization's Flock data (other agencies, the Flock statewide or nationwide network, the Michigan State Police, fusion centers, federal agencies, private entities), and any record of the Royal Oak Police Department's decision to join or leave the Flock statewide or nationwide sharing networks.

5. Camera inventory. The Royal Oak Police Department's camera inventory: the Flock device list export or any equivalent list the Royal Oak Police Department keeps (location name, coordinates or street location, device type, install date), and any installation report, relocation record, or decommission record for a device added, moved, or removed since January 1, 2020. If location coordinates are withheld, please release the remaining fields.

6. Retention and transparency portal. The Royal Oak Police Department's Flock data-retention period as stated in any policy, contract or order form, settings record, or correspondence with Flock, and any correspondence with Flock, memo, or approval concerning setting or changing that period, including the Royal Oak Police Department's own request to Flock. If the Royal Oak Police Department publishes a Flock transparency portal, please include its web address; for anything shown there, the address is sufficient.

7. Audits. Each internal audit memo or report of ALPR use prepared under the Royal Oak Police Department's ALPR policy, with any list or sample of the searches reviewed; any written finding that a user violated that policy, with its disposition (names may be redacted); any memo or report the Royal Oak Police Department has prepared about searches of its cameras by other organizations; and any periodic usage or performance report Flock has sent to the Royal Oak Police Department since January 1, 2024. Raw system exports are not requested under this item.

If no record exists for an item, please include in your written response the certificate required by MCL 15.235(5)(b) that the record does not exist under the name given here or by another name reasonably known to you.

Fees. I request a public-interest fee waiver or reduction under MCL 15.234(2): the records concern the operation and oversight of a public automated license plate reader program, and the findings will be published for the general public at no charge on a public website covering Michigan license plate reader programs, so furnishing them can be considered as primarily benefiting the general public. If you assess a fee, please send the estimate on your standard detailed-itemization form (MCL 15.234(4)), broken out by the numbered items above so that I can narrow the request, and, if the estimate exceeds \$50, the deposit notice under MCL 15.234(8), within the response period of MCL 15.235(2). I understand that labor for search, examination, and redaction may be charged only where failure to charge would result in unreasonably high costs because of the nature of this particular request and the public body specifically identifies the nature of those costs (MCL 15.234(3)); that labor is capped at the hourly wage of the lowest-paid employee capable of the task, plus a fringe-benefit multiplier of at most 50 percent noted on the itemization (MCL 15.234(1)(a), (b), (e), (2)); and that records already available on your website are exempt from redaction charges (MCL 15.234(5)).

If any portion is exempt, please release the non-exempt portions (MCL 15.244(1)) and, for each withholding, state the basis and describe what was separated or deleted (MCL 15.235(5)(a), (c)). Thank you.