


# Memorandum

**TO:** MAYOR LICCARDO

**FROM:** Councilmember Johnny Khamis

**SUBJECT:** BUDGET DOCUMENT

**DATE:** May 24, 2016

Approved  Date 5/25/16

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the following recommendation be enacted:

**Proposal**

Program/Project Title: Police Equipment – **Acquire eight (8) additional License Plate Readers for SJPD**

Amount of City Funding Required: **\$164,750 in one-time funding to acquire units**  
**\$12,000 in ongoing funding for annual maintenance costs**

Fund Type (i.e. General Fund, C&C funds, etc.): **General Fund**

This change is:

One-time     Ongoing

Proposal Description, including anticipated outcomes (describe how change would affect services for San José residents, businesses, community groups, etc.):

In order to give our residents the feeling of safety they deserve, and to ensure that our sworn San Jose Police Department (SJPD) staff can continue to operate efficiently and effectively, it is important that we continue to invest in proven, modern policing tools. Acquiring an additional eight camera-based license plate readers (LPRs) will help our police officers efficiently apprehend suspects who threaten the peace and safety of our residents.

The SJPD currently utilizes eight camera-based LPRs and incurs the costs associated with an annual maintenance package. These eight units are mobile, mounted on marked police vehicles, and deployed as needed. Given that there has been an increase in auto thefts and burglaries, the fact that there have been ongoing releases of offenders from our State prisons, and the lack of State-funded relief coming to cities to handle these increases in property crimes, I propose that we increase our LPRs to sixteen. Sixteen LPRs will allow each police division to utilize four LPRs regularly.

As we struggle to fill our complement of budgeted Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs) of sworn staff, we need to keep up with the technology available to us to help our police officers easily locate stolen vehicles and recover the stolen vehicles abandoned on our City streets. Oftentimes, to avoid having

their vehicles traced back to their homes, burglars will utilize stolen cars when they commit their crimes and then abandon the stolen vehicles. As the number of residents that utilize their own private surveillance cameras increases, criminals are likely to make even greater use of this method. In turn, LPRs will become an even more important law enforcement tool.

It is imperative that we provide our police officers with the tools they need to keep our citizens safe. We must continue to make strategic investments in the technology that helps them do their jobs tools such as LPRs, remote fingerprint readers, and predictive analytics.

**Funding Source**

- Essential Services Reserve (\$2.5 million)
- Other (Program/Project/Fund): **Public Safety CSA/Police Department/Police Overtime Reserve**

Department or Organization: **San Jose Police Department**

Department or Organization Contact (list contact information for the individual that certified cost estimates contained within your recommendation):

Name: Sonja Daggs / Heidi York

Phone number: 408-537-1616 / 408-537-1625

E-mail address: [sonja.daggs@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:sonja.daggs@sanjoseca.gov) / [heidi.york@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:heidi.york@sanjoseca.gov)