



OHSP Special Conditions for Funding Regarding Automated License Plate Readers

What are ALPRs?

Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs) involve the use of specialized cameras and software that recognize, capture, and record the images of license plates. ALPR technology then translates the characters into data which automatically queries files for wanted felons and persons of interest on the terrorist watch list.

Fact:

State and local law enforcement agencies can utilize federal Homeland Security Grant Program funding administered by the OHSP to purchase and deploy ALPR technology:

- to primarily support and enhance law enforcement's homeland security prevention and detection mission areas
- to contribute data to a central repository enabling regional law enforcement information-sharing capabilities that support intelligence gathering, query, analysis, interoperability, and strategic planning.

Special Conditions Guiding the Request for and Approval of federal Homeland Security Grant Program Funding of ALPRs:

- Federal Homeland Security Grant Program funding for ALPRs must be used to increase a law enforcement agency's capability to detect and deter a terrorist attack by equipping the requesting agency with mobile and fixed ALPR technology to be deployed in and around critical infrastructure and key resource locations.
- A clear written Vision and Concept of Operations (CONOPS) must be developed by the requesting agencies and submitted to OHSP to show how the agencies would deploy and utilize the equipment. Proposed ALPR initiatives will not be reviewed by OHSP for Federal Homeland Security Grant Program funding consideration until this documentation is provided to OHSP. This operational procedure should cover allowable as well as prohibited uses for the ALPR devices and the procedures should map to the stated CONOPS. The OHSP will not reimburse local units of government (local law enforcement) or authorize state law enforcement agencies to expend their federal Homeland Security Grant Program funding until the written Vision and CONOPS has been reviewed and approved by OHSP.

- A clear and explicit “Adherence-to-DataSharing-Standards” (ADS) clause will be required to be signed by the requesting law enforcement agency. A vendor’s Statement of Work/Specifications (SOW/S) will be required to be submitted by the requesting law enforcement agency to the OHSP. The OHSP will review the SOW/S to ensure that the selected vendor is in compliance with the ADS. The OHSP will not reimburse local units of government (local law enforcement) or authorize state law enforcement agencies to expend their federal Homeland Security Grant Program funding unless the ADS clause is fully adhered to by the selected ALPR vendor. See additional information below concerning ADS.
- The requesting law enforcement agency will be required to establish an ALPR Working Group comprised of State, regional, county and local representatives from the law enforcement, intelligence, information technology, technical, and communications disciplines to develop a risk-based strategy for the deployment of the ALPR in the requesting agency’s jurisdiction.

Other Considerations for applying Federal Homeland Security Grant Program Funding of ALRPs:

- The OHSP, in consultation with the New Jersey Division of State Police - Information Technology Bureau, is adopting an open-interface, ALPR Adherence-to-DataSharing-Standard. This means that the selected ALPR vendor must embrace the ability to horizontally (municipality-to-municipality) or vertically (municipality-county-state) share the results of License Plate queries and results. The intent is to ensure that the selected vendor does not restrict or stipulate that the information cannot be shared between and among law enforcement agencies. This will be done in a manner consistent with both Law Enforcement principles and industry Best Practices.
- The requesting law enforcement agency’s ALPR initiative must be capable of being interfaced with other law enforcement agencies within their respective Homeland Security Region (UASI, Northwest, Delaware River, Shore). This condition is being applied to support and facilitate the build out of regional information sharing capabilities. Ultimately as ALPR technology is expanded and deployed throughout the State of New Jersey, it is envisioned that compliance with the ADS coupled with regional ALPR information sharing capability that the New Jersey Regional Operations Intelligence Center (ROIC) can use visualization and analytical technologies to produce Intelligence products.
- CONOPS should address mobile ALPR deployed to areas that pose a potential terrorism threat and/or in areas of Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources (CI/KR) and fixed ALPR positioned at tiered CI/KR.