

AFFIDAVIT OF DAVID BYRD

I, David Byrd, am of the age of majority and, if called as a witness to testify in the matter of FOIA Request for Review 2022 PAC 71393, can competently testify to the following facts:

1. During all relevant times herein, I was employed by the City of DeKalb (the “City”) as the Chief of Police with the powers and duties provided by 65 ILCS 5/5-11-2 and Chapter 4.02 of the City’s Municipal Code. As the City’s Police Chief, I am responsible for managing the City’s Police Department and preserving the peace, order and safety of the City.

2. The City’s Police Department uses License Plate Reader (“LPR”) camera system as a security measure that is designed to identify, prevent, or respond to potential attacks upon the City’s population or systems, facilities, or installations. The LPR system consists of sophisticated cameras that photograph the license plates of cars traveling on the City’s public streets, and those photographs are immediately processed through a law enforcement database to identify clear and present dangers to the health or safety of the City including, but not limited to, cars which are stolen, involved in child-abduction emergency alert warnings, or owned/operated by suspected criminals. Additionally, LPR can be used to identify cars that are leaving the scene of an in-progress call to quickly identify and apprehend criminal suspects. Also, LPR provides live feed to the City’s Police Department which can be used to give real-time intelligence to law enforcement officers and direct rescue personnel. Furthermore, LPR allows the City to divert police officers from certain time and labor intensive duties, such as general surveillance and investigations, to more active patrol operations which could reasonably be expected to better identify, prevent, or respond to potential attacks upon the City’s population or systems, facilities, or installations.

3. The City’s LPR cameras are installed on various undisclosed fixed locations throughout the City which are strategically chosen by the City’s Police Department to identify,

prevent, or respond to potential attacks upon the City's population or systems, facilities, or installations. Due to the limited number of LPR cameras, the LPR cameras must be installed at certain targeted high-crime locations to most effectively identify, prevent, or respond to potential attacks upon the City's population or systems, facilities, or installations.

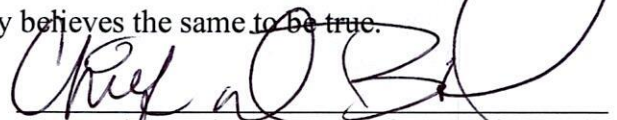
4. Due to the nature, size, configuration, and installation of the LPR cameras, it is reasonably expected that the general public will not be able to identify their undisclosed locations. For example, I had difficulty visually identifying the City's LPR cameras, even though I knew what the cameras looked like and where they were located.

5. Public disclosure of the location of the LPR cameras could reasonably be expected to jeopardize the effectiveness of the City's security measures in several ways. First, individuals who are planning criminal activity will know exactly what areas they need to avoid to escape detection by the LPR cameras. Second, individuals who are planning criminal activity will know exactly what areas are unmonitored and most vulnerable to criminal attacks. Third, individuals may be able to disable the LPR cameras or commit acts of vandalism which could impair the LPR's effectiveness. Fourth, the City would have to move the LPR cameras from the targeted high-crime locations which most effectively identify, prevent, or respond to potential criminal attacks.

THIS AFFIANT SAYS NOTHING FURTHER.

CERTIFICATION

Under penalties as provided by law pursuant to Section 1-109 of the Illinois Code of Civil Procedure, the undersigned certifies that the statements set forth in this instrument are true and correct, except as to matters therein stated to be on information and belief and as to such matters the undersigned certifies as aforesaid that he verily believes the same to be true.


David Byrd, Police Chief, City of DeKalb