

CITY OF SAN MATEO
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



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April 4, 2022

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
U.S. Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Alex Padilla
U.S. Senate
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: SUPPORT: City of San Mateo CDS Request – Acquisition of License Plate Recognition and Camera Technology

Dear Senator Feinstein & Senator Padilla:

On behalf of the San Mateo City Council and our 105,000 residents, we support the City of San Mateo's \$100,000 CDS request for the Acquisition of License Plate Recognition and Camera Technology. Currently the San Mateo Police Department (SMPD) has 25 Automated License Plate Readers (ALPR). They have been assigned to the most strategic and highest crime locations. This has proven to be successful, but also helped the Department identify a strong need to include other areas of ingress and egress to our city. The police tried to address it by equipping 6 mobile traffic trailers with ALPRs, but that has proven to be inadequate. The San Mateo Police Department needs 30 additional ALPRs to bring the total to 55 cameras.

SMPD officers utilize the ALPR systems **every day**, and it is a vital tool that is used to solve crimes. Many of these crimes would otherwise go unsolved or take an extraordinary effort to solve, but ALPR technology increases the SMPD solvability rate keeping community safer. Ten (10) other jurisdictions with similar populations as San Mateo have more ALPRs.

For all the aforementioned reasons, the San Mateo City Council supports the City of San Mateo's CDS request of \$100,000 for the Acquisition of License Plate Recognition and Camera Technology. Our members put their lives on the line every day to protect the public. They deserve the finest technology.

Sincerely,

Rick Bonilla, Mayor