COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session 2026, Legislative Day No. 19

Resolution No. 38-26

Introduced by Ms. Rodvien

By the County Council, October 19, 2026

RESOLUTION urging the incoming Anne Arundel County Council to review Anne Arundel County Police Department's policies surrounding the use of Automatic License Plate Readers or similar video surveillance systems used throughout the County

WHEREAS, Automatic License Plate Readers ("ALPRs"), an evolving technology that can easily capture images; use Artificial Intelligence to determine vehicles' license plate numbers, makes, and models; and create and transmit searchable vehicle location databases; has come under increased scrutiny as their prevalence has spread; and

WHEREAS, ALPRs differ from automated traffic enforcement cameras, like speed cameras, red light cameras, and toll cameras; and

WHEREAS, ALPRs are significantly more aggressive by constantly recording, tracking the movements of everything that enter their field of view, and saves data; and

WHEREAS, since June 2025, local jurisdictions and police departments throughout the United States have cancelled or refused to initiate contracts with the automatic license plate reader company Flock Safety because of concerns about operational standard and respect for privacy, including concerns about misuse of the technology by individuals; and

WHEREAS, the Anne Arundel County Council recognizes that technology can be an important tool for investigating serious crimes and protecting public safety, but also recognizes the legitimate concerns raised by residents regarding privacy, data retention, data sharing, government surveillance, and access to information collected by ALPRs; and

WHEREAS, the Anne Arundel County Council acknowledges the growing concern expressed by residents through the increased volume of emails, telephone calls, and public testimony; and

WHEREAS, due to these ongoing concerns, the Anne Arundel County Council believes that the use of such technology should occur only pursuant to clear policies that appropriately balance legitimate public-safety needs with individual privacy and civil liberties and provide adequate transparency, oversight, and accountability; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the County Council of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, That it urges the incoming Anne Arundel County Council to review Anne Arundel County Police Department's policies surrounding the use of Automatic License Plate Readers or similar video surveillance systems used throughout the County to ensure that the privacy of residents is balanced with public safety, and to adopt procedures for the ongoing review and audit of compliance with County policies; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to members of the incoming Anne Arundel County Council and County Executive.

READ AND PASSED this 19th day of October, 2026

By Order:

Kaley Schultze
Administrative Officer

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT RESOLUTION NO. 38-26 IS TRUE AND CORRECT AND DULY ADOPTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY.

Julie K. Hummer
Chair