

CONSTABLE STACY SUITS
TRAVIS COUNTY PRECINCT THREE



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Mr. Mayor and Council members,

I am Stacy Suits, Travis County Constable, Pct. 3. I want to encourage you to support the Proposal brought before you by Councilwoman McKenzie Kelley concerning bringing back to the Austin Police Department their ability to start using License Plate Readers again. My experience tells me this is a PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUE.

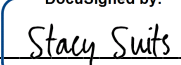
As the Constable, covering primarily the Southwest portion of Austin and Travis County, my constituents have asked me to help protect them in all areas of Law Enforcement. I have had numerous citizens request for my Office's help in recovering their stolen vehicles. Many of my citizens cannot afford to buy another car and do not have full coverage insurance to help buy another vehicle. I have also had requests to assist with missing persons cases. I know there have been many instances of the LPR unit identifying the vehicle involved with the missing person.

One article I was reading stated: "Automated license plate readers (ALPRs) capture computer-readable images of license plates. These high-tech devices allow law enforcement agencies to compare plate numbers against those of stolen cars or cars driven by people suspected of being involved in criminal or terrorist activities." This statement explains to me why License Plate Readers help with overall Public Safety.

I understand the concern about what happens to the data collected by using the License Plate Readers. I support the recommendation by the Austin Police Department to limit the data hold for 30 days or less and then the data is destroyed. I do not personally know of any situation where the data was used for nefarious reasons. I know that most Officers do not have the time or desire to research data while answering call after call.

I believe re-instituting the use of License Plate Readers, by the Austin Police Department, is much needed to address many of the concerns those in Precinct 3 I ask each of you to vote in favor of Councilwoman Kelley's proposal today and make available License Plate Readers.

Thank you for your consideration,

DocuSigned by:


Constable Stacy Suits
Travis County Pct. 3