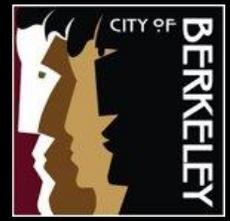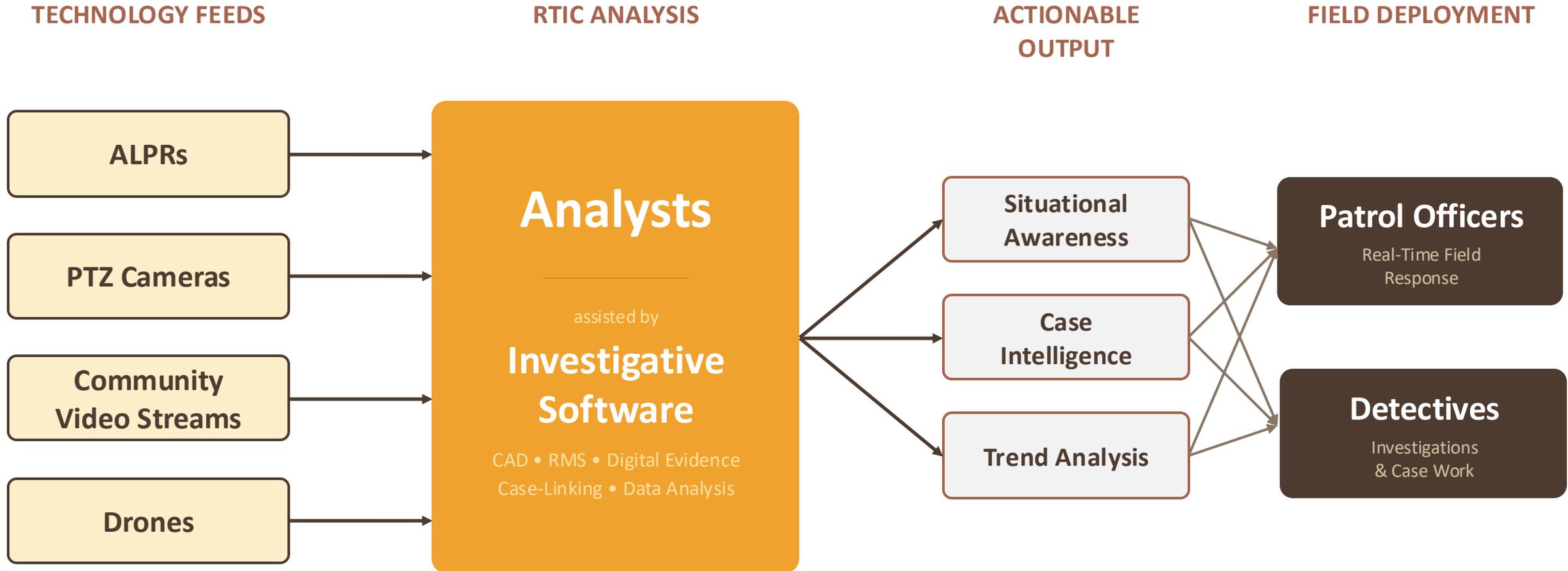# CITY OF BERKELEY
Police Department

Public Safety Technology Update

March 24, 2026

Real-Time Information Center (RTIC)

How technology feeds support analysts and field operations

TECHNOLOGY FEEDS

RTIC ANALYSIS

ACTIONABLE OUTPUT

FIELD DEPLOYMENT

ALPRs

PTZ Cameras

Community Video Streams

Drones

Analysts

assisted by

Investigative Software

CAD • RMS • Digital Evidence
Case-Linking • Data Analysis

Situational Awareness

Case Intelligence

Trend Analysis

Patrol Officers
Real-Time Field Response

Detectives
Investigations & Case Work

Research: RTIC's are proven resource multipliers. Peer-reviewed studies show 66% better odds of clearance for cases supported by RTIC. Peer agencies report 25% of drone calls cleared without dispatching officers.

Renewals + Updates

ALPRs

120+
Arrests and leads in 2025

Contract Renewal

- 52 cameras cross-referencing plates against hotlists for stolen vehicles, missing persons, felony warrants.
- Real-time alerts to patrol;
- 30-day retention; Federal access blocked.
- Approved July 2023. No policy changes.

PTZ Cameras

16
Council-approved cameras

Policy Update with Council-directed revisions.

- Located in business districts with high pedestrian traffic.
- Objective video evidence for prosecution; real-time situational awareness; visual deterrence.
- 180-day retention; no external direct access to data.
- Approved July 2025. Updated policies reflect Council-directed revisions.

Field-Deployed UAS

0
Injuries or complaints reported

Policy Update to allow dept purchase

- On-scene aerial views and interior building assessment during high-risk searches, warrants, and emergencies.
- Increases ability to de-escalate.
- Evidence retained according to department retention policy
- Council approved mutual aid UAS. Contract authority for BPD-owned units requested.

Investigative Software

$0
General Fund impact

Grant-Funded • 1yr

- Centralizes existing databases like CAD, RMS, and digital evidence into one searchable platform for case-linking.
- Directly supports the Gun Violence Intervention and Prevention Program.
- 100% funded by Byrne SCIP grant accepted July 2025. No General Fund impact.

Community Video Streams

- **How it Works**
  - Opt-in program: business and non-residential commercial building camera integration allowing BPD to view security feeds during specific incidents. No City-purchased cameras.
  - Pre-integration review with in-person site assessment
  - On site public notification signage. All camera locations published on City website.
- **Public Safety Benefit**
  - Replaces the slow, manual process of canvassing to locate cameras and request footage after a crime.
  - Real-time visual awareness of scenes before officer arrival.
  - Improves coordination in response to active calls for service like a robbery or active shooter.
- **Privacy Protections**
  - Access restricted to active investigations. Camera owners retain ownership; can revoke access at any time.
  - Facial recognition strictly prohibited. All accesses logged and auditable.
  - Cannot be accessed by outside agencies.
  - Any data with evidentiary value is downloaded to department's secure evidence collection system.

Drone as a First Responder

25%
Calls cleared without a patrol unit

~2 mins
Avg. drone response time

- **How it Works**
  - Drones launch from docking stations on the roof of the Public Safety Building and fly directly to the scene.
  - Analysts see live aerial video and relay what they see to responding officers.
  - All hardware is installed and maintained by Flock under a subscription. No City infrastructure required.
- **Public Safety Benefit**
  - Rapid first-on-scene capability for police, fire, and EMS.
  - Greater certainty enables better tactical planning and facilitates de-escalation.
  - Resource multiplier: extends operational capacity without expanding headcount.
- **Privacy Protections**
  - Launched only for specific calls; never random patrol. Cameras face horizon until on scene.
  - All flight paths logged and publicly available on transparency portal within ~1 hour of docking.
  - Drones will never be weaponized. No facial recognition.
  - Data downloaded to department's secure evidence collection system

Why do we need these technologies?

Resource Multiplier

- Staffing challenges- running well below authorized strength
- Budget constraints- funded by reducing 3 positions, ~$160K/yr net savings
- Bringing multiple technologies into an ecosystem streamlines operations

Investigative Impact

- High-quality leads
- Faster apprehension of suspects
- Improves clearance rates- 66% better odds with RTIC support (peer-reviewed research)
- Strengthens case investigations- real-time data correlation across cameras, drones, ALPRs, and community video

Community Impact

- Victim closure and justice- cases solved faster, dangerous offenders off the street sooner
- Data-driven policing- officers arrive with information, not uncertainty
- Crime deterrent
- Thriving and vibrant community- better public safety outcomes with constrained resources

Why we are recommending Flock Safety

Single Ecosystem
- One dashboard, one audit trail, one MSA.
- Consolidated alerts and oversight
- Native real-time data correlation- impossible with fragmented multi-vendor systems.

Fiscal Advantage
- 10% discount on new product lines (DFR, PTZ) if executed by end of March 2026- over $100K in savings.
- Subscription model includes hardware, maintenance, and upgrades- no City-owned infrastructure to manage.

Vendor Comparison
- No other single vendor delivers ALPRs, fixed cameras, DFR, analytics, and community video integration.
- Drone camera quality and connectivity is far superior to all other competitors.
- Every city in Alameda county uses Flock ALPR. Network effect multiplies public safety value.
- Other vendors require City-owned hardware, lack real-time alerting, or cannot match Flock's technical support and included upgrades.
- Axon came closest but its ALPR/camera hardware is untested and the software lacks real-time alerts and hotlist support- core to BPD operations.

How do we mitigate potential risk

Technical Security

- End-to-end encryption across all product lines.
- SOC 2 certified, CJIS compliant infrastructure.
- All access logged and auditable.
- Flock must promptly notify City of any security incident and describe scope and corrective steps.

Sanctuary Protections

- Federal agencies require a court order to access data. Administrative subpoenas are insufficient.
- Consistent with Sanctuary City Ordinance.
- Flock has stopped federal data-sharing pilot programs nationally and introduced restrictive-by-default permission controls.

Master Services Agreement

- City Attorney's Office negotiated MSA accepted in full by Flock - every redline the City proposed was accepted.
- City owns all data, including anonymized derivatives. Flock prohibited from selling, sharing, or distributing City data.
- Contractual financial penalties for data breaches or unauthorized disclosures, mirroring framework approved by Oakland Council in December 2025.
- City's data ownership and control survives contract termination.
- Department supports additional terms being considered.

Recommended Actions

STO Approvals (BMC 2.99)

- Accept Acquisition Reports + Use Policies: UAS and Community Video Streams
- Approve updated Use Policies: Fixed Video Cameras

Police Equipment (BMC 2.100)

- Accept Impact Statement + Use Policy: Unmanned Aerial Systems

Contract Authority

- Amend contract to include:
  - DFR
  - PTZ Cameras
  - Investigative Software
  - ALPR renewal