

CITY OF ISSAQUAH
City Council Committee-of-the-Whole

6:30 PM
May 11, 2026

MINUTES

Council Chambers, 135 E.
Sunset Way, Issaquah WA

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Councilmembers:
Paul Adair
Erika Boyd
Kelly Jiang
Russell Joe
Tola Marts
Kevin Nichols
Lindsey Walsh

Administration/Staff:
Wally Bobkiewicz, City Administrator
Andrea Lehner, Deputy City Administrator
Tisha Gieser, City Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Marts called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following individuals spoke regarding the benefits of Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) cameras in policing:

- Sam Burtis, Issaquah Police Dept. employee
- Melissa Wyrwitzke, Issaquah Police Dept. employee
- Alex Helms, Issaquah Police Dept. employee

The following individuals spoke regarding concerns with Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) cameras, which included security, surveillance, access and misuse of data:

- Jan Cox, Sammamish resident
- Margot Horn, resident
- Sarah Ryder, resident
- Nica Rondinelli, student
- Jenn Hagedorn, resident
- Nicholas Harang, resident
- Elinor Serumgard, resident
- Jon Zemel, resident
- B.J. Ullom, resident
- Reagan Harper, resident
- Will Kheriaty, resident
- Nathan Page, resident

AGENDA ITEMS

- a) **COM 0258 - Issaquah Climate Action Plan (ICAP)**
Presented by:
Stacy Vynne McKinstry, Sustainability Manager
David Reedy, Sustainability Coordinator

The following public comment was provided:

- Ann Fletcher, resident, urged strong actions in the ICAP to ensure the City can meet its targets and shared suggestions from People for Climate Action for public education.
- David Kappler, resident, spoke regarding concerns with wildfires due to climate change.

A majority of the City Council expressed support for the ICAP returning to the City Council at the June 8 City Council Committee of the Whole.

Other City Council feedback included:

- Appreciation for taking this update seriously.
- Interest in seeing some of the language being tightened up and focused on climate action versus sustainability.
- Interest in rebranding ICAP as also being a sustainability plan.
- Support for the tree canopy equity metric.

b) **COM 0262 - Issaquah Police Department Congressional Community Appropriations Grant**

Presented by:

Dale Markey Crimp, Assistant to the City Administrator

Ryan Smith, Crime Analyst & Mobile Forensic Examiner

Sergeant Laura Asbell, Issaquah Police Department

J. Bava, Commander, Kent Police Department

Phil Neff, UW Center for Human Rights

The following individuals provided public comment:

- Chandra Ryder, resident, expressed concerns with back door or side door access to Flock by federal agencies and non-local entities and requested an ordinance banning ALPR use.
- Janice Matilla Smith, resident, spoke regarding support for tasers and concerns with ALPR cameras.
- Robin Blabod, resident, requested an ordinance banning Flock and ALPR cameras.
- Nicholas Harang, resident, questioned information presented in the presentation regarding the security of ALPR data and urged protection of resident data.

A majority of the City Council was supportive of the proposed grant spending plan but wanted to ensure the grant agreement is clear about the intended uses of funding in writing.

Other City Council feedback on the grant funds included:

- Consider moving the vote on the proposed grant until after a policy on cameras can be put in place or move consideration of a policy up before the proposed grant acceptance.
- Request to have announcement of intended future discussion on proposed ALPR policy before grant agreement.
- Important to move forward with grant approval.

City Council comments regarding ALPR cameras included:

- Community wants strict guardrails around any ALPR technology.
- SB 6002 does not provide enough limits.
- Support policy around data sharing protections for ALPR's and other cameras used in the City.
- Opposed to any ALPR system that doesn't have security guarantees that allow residents to feel comfortable.
- Unsure ALPR's are necessary in the City.
- If local control of ALPR camera data is possible, would be interested in exploring potential ALPR implementation further.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Councilmember Joe:

Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration - Will be held on May 17.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:08 PM.

Tisha Gieser, City Clerk