CASTLE ROCK POLICE DEPARTMENT

DRONES FOR FIRST RESPONDERS (DFR)

TOWN COUNCIL PRESENTATION
JUNE 3, 2025

CRIME

2020

- Civil unrest
- Skyrocketing Crime
- Colorado #1 in US for auto-thefts

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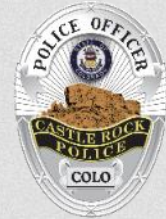
INNOVATION JOURNEY

2021 *Protecting the vulnerable from harm*

- Flock LPR technology introduced
- Early adopter
- Community supports with HOA Flock cameras
- Milestone Camera Software (2020)
- Officer piloted drones

RESULTS

2021

- 25% decrease in auto-thefts
  - Only Town with reduction

- 6th safest city in Colorado – Alarms.org

Safest Cities in Colorado – 2021

Last Updated on December 27, 2020

INNOVATION JOURNEY

2022

- Flock LPR technology – added Cameras
- Milestone Camera Software - added Cameras
- Officer piloted drones
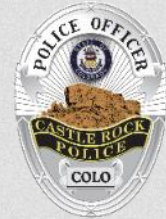- Strategic Response Center "Real Time Crime Center"

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RESULTS

2022

- 15% decrease in auto-thefts

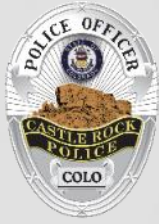- Safest Small City in Colorado – MoneyGeek

INNOVATION JOURNEY

2023

- Flock LPR technology –added cameras
- Milestone Camera Software - added Cameras
- Officer piloted drones
- Strategic Response Center
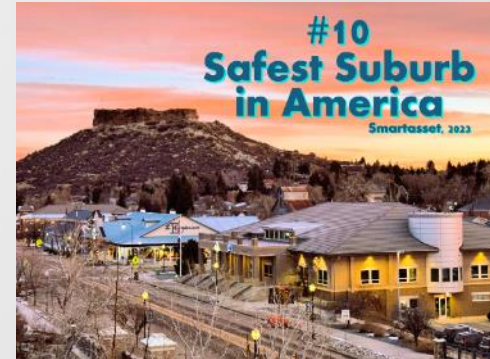
- RTCC staffed with two officers
- Community Action Team

Real-time crime center

RESULTS
2023

- 13th safest city in Colorado – SafeWise
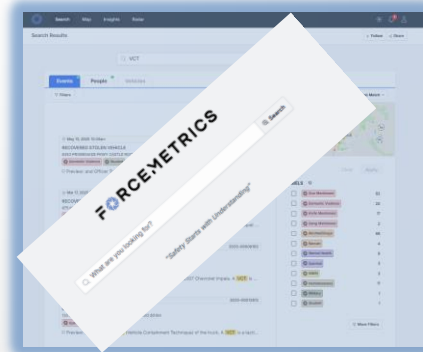
- 10th safest suburb in US – SmartAsset

INNOVATION JOURNEY

2024

- Flock LPR technology - added Cameras
- Milestone Camera Software - added Cameras
- Officer piloted drones
- Strategic Response Center

- Community Action Team with 5 officers
- ForceMetrics

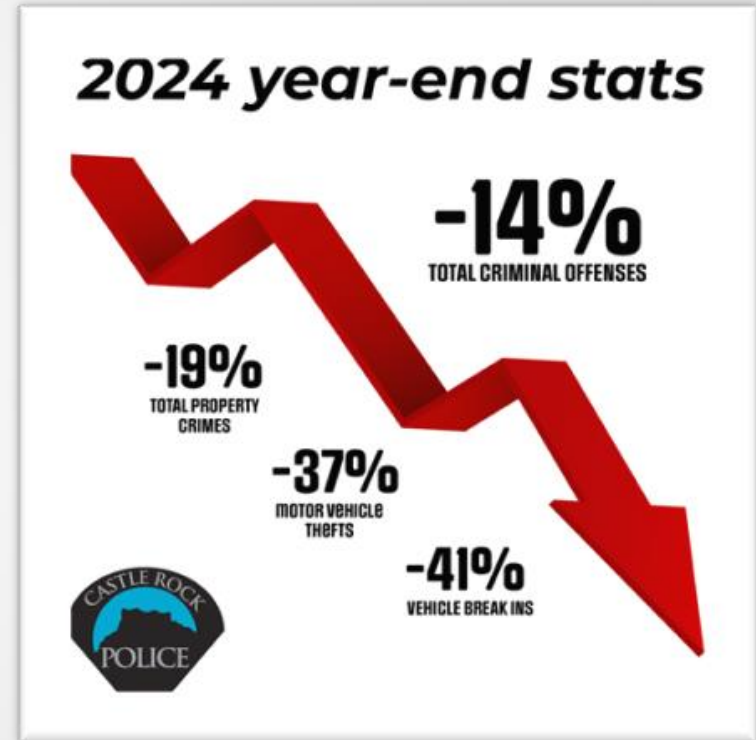# RESULTS

2024

- 6th safest city in Colorado – SafeWise
- 37th safest city in the US – SafeWise
- 47th safest suburb in US - SmartAsset

2024 year-end stats

-14% TOTAL CRIMINAL OFFENSES

-19% TOTAL PROPERTY CRIMES

-37% MOTOR VEHICLE THEFTS

-41% VEHICLE BREAK INS

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WHAT'S NEXT?

2025

- Flock LPR's
- Officer piloted drones
- Milestone Camera Software
- Strategic Response Center staffed by two officers
- 5 Officer Community Action Team
- ForceMetrics

- Hiring for 11 additional police positions due to 2A

- **Drones for First Responders**

CURRENT CRPD DRONE PROGRAM

- Flying in the Town since 2021

- Currently have 10 drones in service

- 9 Pilots- from Patrol and Special Ops

- Estimated 750+ flights in 2024
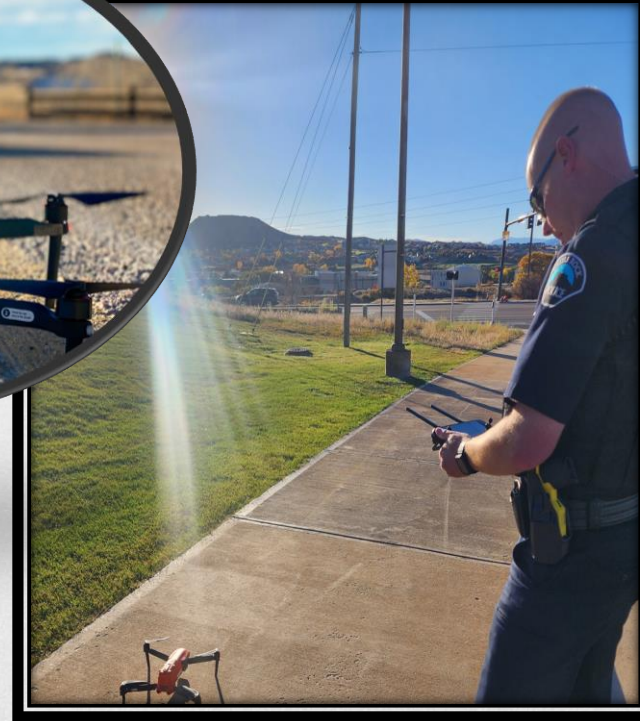
WHY DRONES FOR FIRST RESPONDERS?

- In Strategic Plan
- Instantly deployed/launch capabilities
- 400ft
- Battery swap/limited down time
- Improved Coverage/availability
- Video feed can be shared with command

- Thermal/Night Vision
- Resource multiplier
- Compliments existing drone program
- Provides real-time info to officer for safer more efficient response

DFR RESPONSE

- Emergency calls
- Fire calls
- Non-emergency calls
- Vehicle crashes
- Lost/endangered persons
- Special events

- In-progress calls
- Swatting calls
- School threats
- Organized Retail Crime
- Domestic Violence
- Assaults

POLICY

PROHIBITIVE USES

The UAS video surveillance equipment shall not be used:

• To conduct random surveillance activities unless otherwise identified in an established operations plan

• To target a person based solely on individual characteristics, such as, but not limited to race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, disability, gender or sexual orientation

• To harass, intimidate or discriminate against any individual or group
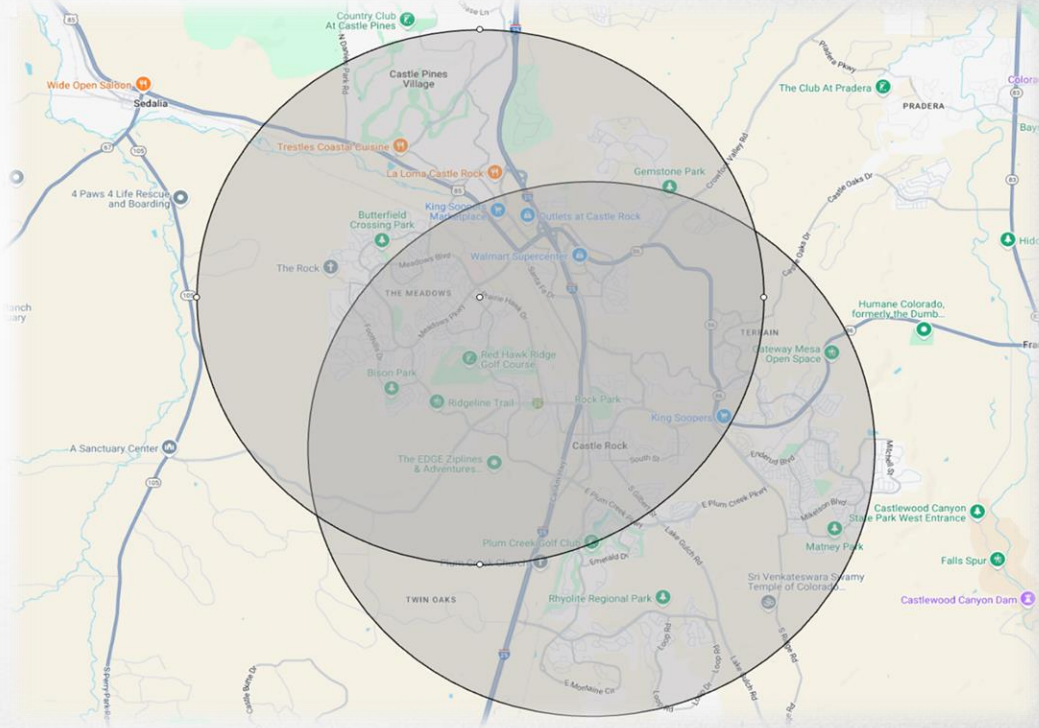
• To conduct personal business of any type

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DRONES FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

RADAR
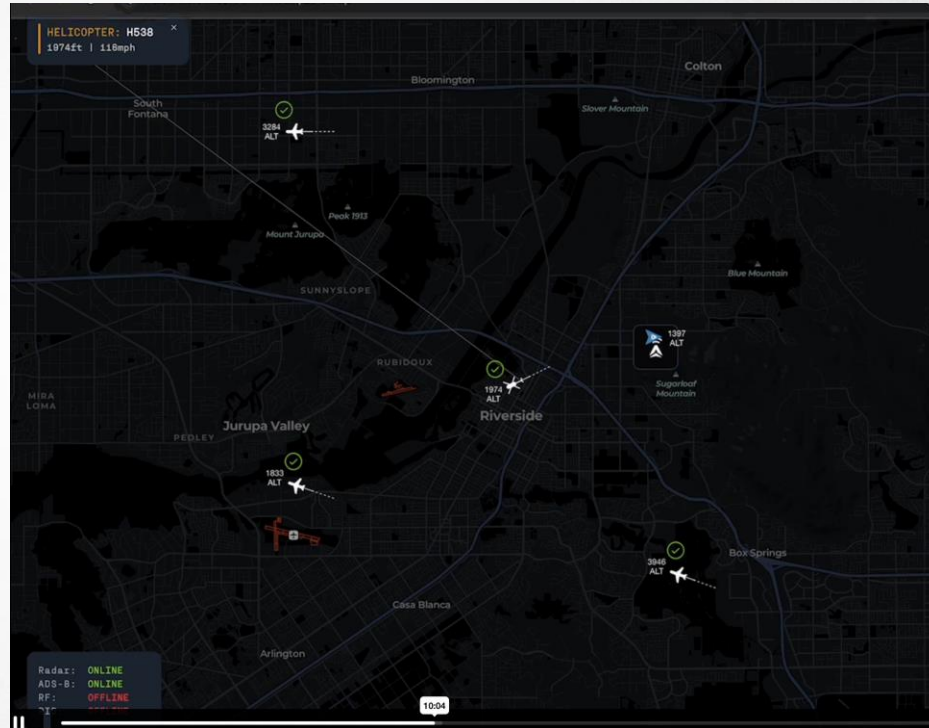
DFR PROJECTED COVERAGE AREA WITH 2 DRONES

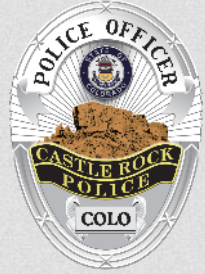
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AGREEMENT

DETAILS

- 3-year lease for two drones

- 200k per year – substantial discount for early
  adoption

- All maintenance and repairs included

- Flock coordinates obtaining the FAA waiver

- Staff provided by Flock until FAA waiver is
  obtained

QUESTIONS?

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

"I move to approve the Resolution as introduced by title."

Alternate Motions

"I move to approve the Resolution as introduced by title with the following changes _____."

"I move to continue this item to a future Town council agenda on _____ date to allow additional time to (<u>list information needed</u>)."

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