

PART OF THE ALPR COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TOOLKIT

Axon Vehicle Intelligence Boundaries

Built-in limits. Agency-configured controls.

In a council hearing about automated license plate recognition (ALPR), the most important questions are often about boundaries: what the system does, what it does not do and whether those limits are enforceable. Policy sets the agency's rules. System design, configuration controls and reviewable records help make those rules enforceable and observable. The boundaries below explain how Axon Vehicle Intelligence supports that governance model.

What the system does

- ✓ Capture vehicle detections from fixed, mobile and certified partner cameras where configured, including a license plate image, a vehicle context image, basic vehicle attributes such as color, make and vehicle type, and the time and location
- ✓ Compare plates against agency-approved hotlists, such as the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) or agency-owned lists where configured
- ✓ Surface alerts for human review when a plate matches a hotlist
- ✓ Support authorized investigative searches in Fusus, the agency's real-time operations layer, using known information such as a plate, partial plate or vehicle description
- ✓ Let an authorized user review prior detections of a specific plate within the agency's retention period in support of an active investigation
- ✓ Support preservation of relevant detections in Axon Evidence under the agency's retention, access and audit controls
- ✓ Log access, searches, sharing activity where enabled and configuration changes with user, action, time and, where configured, stated reason
- ✓ Apply agency-configured offense category controls to all ALPR searches, requiring users to enter an authorized purpose before results are returned

AXON VEHICLE INTELLIGENCE BOUNDARIES – CONTINUED

What the system does NOT do

- × Does not use facial recognition or perform live registered-owner lookups
- × Does not place agency ALPR data into a national or pooled database
- × Does not share agency ALPR data automatically or by default
- × Does not allow agencies that receive shared data to re-share it
- × Does not provide federal agencies automatic, standing or built-in access to agency ALPR data through Axon
- × Does not automate enforcement. Every alert requires human review before action
- × Does not allow Axon to pool, resell or disclose agency ALPR data except where legally required
- × Does not continuously monitor individuals or maintain a real-time location feed on any person

Detection is not decision

The system surfaces vehicle information for authorized personnel to review. People apply judgment and decide what happens next.

Searching over time

The system does not monitor people or maintain a live location feed on anyone. When investigating a specific vehicle, an authorized user can review where and when that plate was previously captured within the agency's retention period. That search is tied to a named user and logged with the action, time and, where configured, stated reason. It is an investigative search of a known vehicle, bounded by retention and oversight, not continuous monitoring of the public.

Sharing

Sharing is off by default. When an agency enables sharing, it is explicit, invite-only, visible and revocable. Sharing does not copy agency ALPR data into a shared repository, transfer ownership or connect agency ALPR data to a national pool. Visibility changes only when the agency makes it change.

Vendor access

Axon has no standing access to agency ALPR data. Access occurs only when an agency initiates a specific support request. When that happens, access is temporary, limited to the stated purpose, logged and auditable by the agency.

AXON VEHICLE INTELLIGENCE BOUNDARIES – CONTINUED

Designed to be observable

Some boundaries are enforced by system design. Some are governed by agency configuration. Access, searches, sharing activity where enabled and configuration changes are logged and reviewable by the agency. That record helps an agency show how the program operates against policy, not just assert it. Core boundaries are built into how the system works. The system does not place agency ALPR data into a national pool, does not share data automatically, does not use facial recognition, does not perform live registered-owner lookups and does not automate enforcement. Within those boundaries, each agency configures retention, access, sharing, transparency and livestreaming or recording settings under its policy and applicable law.

For governance detail, see the Axon Vehicle Intelligence Governance Guide. For current security and certification documentation, see trust.axon.com.