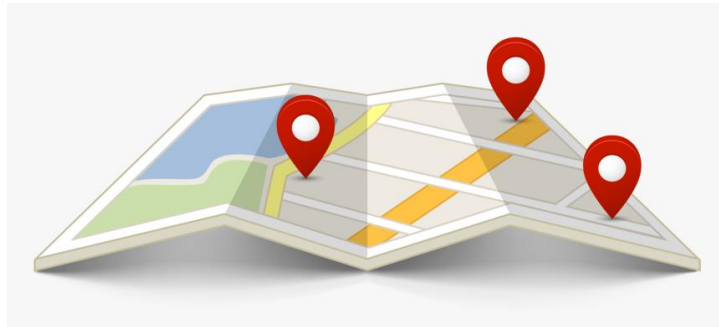


Tracking Devices

Seattle Police Department (SPD)

What is the technology?

Geolocation trackers are cellular devices that SPD utilizes as a tool to locate and track the movements and locations of vehicles. These trackers are location tracking devices that report latitude and longitude as well as other device information such as high temperature alerts, device removal, power/shut down alerts, and battery level.



Why do we use the technology?

The primary benefit of these tracking systems is in the gathering of evidence used in the resolution of criminal investigations. Proper gathering of location evidence of criminal activity by the police supports SPD's mission to prevent crime, enforce the law, and support quality public safety. Trackers allow SPD to remotely track vehicles electronically. They also allow SPD to locate vehicles and individuals that are sought in connection with an active investigation. They are only utilized with consent of a witness, a confidential informant, or within the scope of a judicially issued search warrant.

The open comment period for this technology is currently underway. You can provide comments to [Seattle.gov/SurveillanceComment](https://seattle.gov/SurveillanceComment).

All comments will be included in the Surveillance Impact Report on this technology and submitted to Council.

If you would like to provide feedback outside of the open comment period, please submit them directly to City Council.

Collection

Tracking devices are only utilized with express consent or search warrant authority. These devices report latitude and longitude coordinates on a pre-determined schedule that can be adjusted by users remotely. Data collected from the tracking devices is provided to the requesting Officer/Detective for inclusion in the investigation file and is stored following evidence guidelines.

Use

Officers/Detectives will provide written consent and/or a court approved warrant for all vehicle tracking technology deployments. The Technical and Electronic Support Unit Supervisor will screen all tracking technology deployments to ensure that the appropriate authorities are in place before approving deployment of tracking technology. Equipment deployment is constrained to the conditions stipulated by the consent or court order providing the legal authority.

Protections

All deployments of these devices are documented by TESU and subject to audit by the Office of Inspector General and the federal monitor at any time. All information must be gathered and recorded in a manner that is consistent with SPD Policy 6.060, such that it does not reasonably infringe upon "individual rights, liberties, and freedoms secured by the Constitution of the United States and of the State of Washington, including, among others, the freedom of speech, press, association and assembly; liberty of conscience; the exercise of religion; and the right to petition government for redress of grievances; or violate an individual's right to privacy."