



City of Arvada

City Council Agenda

APRIL 7, 2026

Councilmembers:

Lauren Simpson, Mayor
Randy Moorman, Mayor Pro-Tem
Shawna Ambrose, District 2
Sharon Davis, At large
Bob Fifer, District 4
Michael P. Griffith, At large
Rebecka Lovisona, District 3

Staff Members Usually Present:

Don Wick, City Manager
Linda Haley, Deputy City Manager
Allison Scheck, Deputy City Manager
Rachel Morris, City Attorney
Jacqueline Rhoades, Director of Infrastructure
Jessica Garner, Director of Community & Econ. Dev.
Bryan Archer, Chief Financial Officer
Gabriella Bommer, Director of Human Resources
Ryan Stevenson, Director of Vibrant Community & Neighborhoods
Rachael Kuroiwa, Director of Communications & Engagement
Ed Brady, Chief of Police
Kristen Rush, City Clerk

Info: 720-898-7550

THIRD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

The study session can only be watched via Zoom

<https://arvadaco-gov.zoom.us/j/89475850775?pwd=84m1LiQXxLFnKPPpF9bJ4fWRKglTxN.1>

4:00 PM

STUDY SESSION

THIRD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

1. Call to Order/Roll Call of Councilmembers
2. Study Session Topics
 - A. APD's Presentation on the Real Time Information Center (ARTIC) and Drone First Responder Program
3. Adjournment



REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

AGENDA ITEM
2.A.

TO: THE HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL

DATE: April 7, 2026

SUBJECT: APD's Presentation on the Real Time Information Center (ARTIC) and Drone First Responder Program

Report in Brief

The Arvada Police Department (APD) is preparing for the implementation of its Real Time Information Center ("ARTIC"). The ARTIC is an innovative and modern technology resource designed to assist APD in its responsibility to respond to emergencies. A large component of the ARTIC is the Drone First Responder ("DFR") program. The DFR program will provide not only APD, but other first responders, with live video from a birds eye view to provide them with real-time information before they even arrive on scene. This will help create a safer approach and response for first responders, more and better information to make tactical and safer decisions, and situational awareness that was not available before. This modern technological resource will be used to assist not only APD, but a number of City of Arvada departments. The Drone First Responder program will deploy drones from strategic locations throughout the city, operated by dispatchers within the ARTIC, to provide live video observation to first responders throughout the City of Arvada.

The ARTIC is being implemented in a phased approach and will include much more than the DFR program, which is phase one. Included in this first phase will be incorporating a camera from our municipal court to provide additional security and monitoring.

Phase two will be the incorporation of existing City cameras at intersections, buildings, and other locations. In addition, strategic cameras will be included to monitor for wildfire smoke detection.

Phase three targets the onboarding of Automatic License Plate Reader ("ALPR") technology.

Later this spring 2026, City Council will consider, a contract between the City of Arvada and Axon for the purchase of equipment and services. During this study session APD will present to the Council the ARTIC, how it will be utilized by APD, and used by multiple departments (such as infrastructure to assist with water main breaks; Arvada Fire for fire response emergencies, etc.). APD will answer questions in order to help the Council make an informed decision on the forthcoming contract for Council's consideration.

Background

The Arvada Police Department (APD) will provide a detailed overview into APD's new Real Time Information Center ("ARTIC") and Drone First Responder Program ("DFR"). This study session is designed to provide Council with an opportunity to learn more the ARTIC and how it will be operated. APD will be available to answer the Council's questions.

The proposed contract is with the company "Axon" which provides cutting edge technology necessary for the day-to-day operation of APD; most notably body cams which are required by Colorado Law. In the coming weeks the new contract between the City of Arvada and Axon will be presented to Council for its consideration. This study session provides the Council the opportunity to learn about how the technology will be used not only by APD, but by other departments as well.

Strategic Alignment

This study session is an opportunity for City Council to learn about a new program and component of the Arvada Police Department (the ARTIC) in its mission to provide a safe community for the City of Arvada.

Next Steps

FOR WORKSHOPS ONLY

Prepared by:
Padraic Emerine, Assistant City Attorney I

Reviewed by:

Approved by:

Rachel Morris, City Attorney 03/23/2026

Edward Brady, Police Chief 03/24/2026

Don Wick, City Manager 03/27/2026

Enclosure, exhibits & attachments required to support the report

Arvada Real Time Information Center (ARTIC)

April 2026 - City Council Session



ARTIC Overview

What is the ARTIC?

The **Arvada Real-Time Information Center** is a hub to gather and analyze information in real time to provide better emergency and City services to the Arvada community.

Why do we need the ARTIC?

- Improve **Situational Awareness** of Incidents
 - Provide **MORE Information** to those who need it - **QUICKER**
 - **Unify Systems** - Information can often be siloed
- Improve City **Response times** to problems
- Be **PROACTIVE** - not Reactive
- More **Efficient** City Services



**SHARED SITUATIONAL AWARENESS.
SMARTER OPERATIONS.**

- ARVADA REAL TIME INFORMATION CENTER - ARVADA FIRE
- ARVADA REAL TIME INFORMATION CENTER - EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
- ARVADA REAL TIME INFORMATION CENTER - ARVADA POLICE
- ARVADA REAL TIME INFORMATION CENTER - FLEET SERVICES
- ARVADA REAL TIME INFORMATION CENTER - INFRASTRUCTURE



HISTORIC
OLDE TOWN ARVADA

1870

OLDE TOWN
ARVADA



ARTIC Hub



TECHNOLOGY



YOUR ARTIC TECHNICIANS



Summer Rains

Digital Media Technician

Prior Experience: Records, Evidence Tech, Equipment Coordinator, Police Officer



Ryan Nelson

Accident Investigator

Prior Experience: Dispatcher, Apex Lifeguard, Customer Success Manager

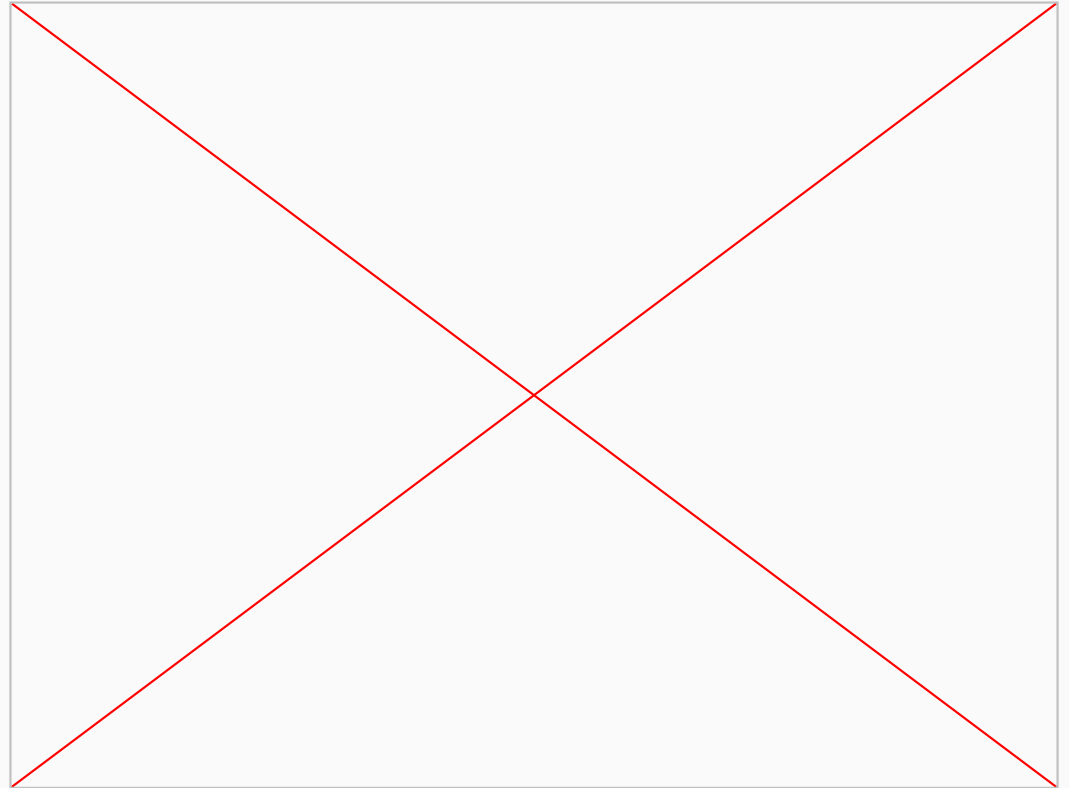
VALUE TO COA

FIRE & Emergency Management



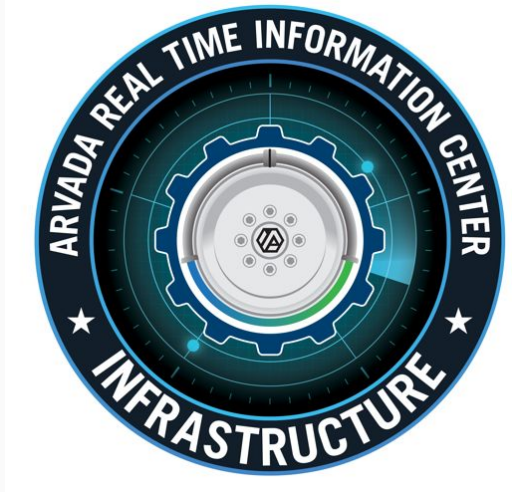
VALUE TO COA

FIRE & Emergency Management



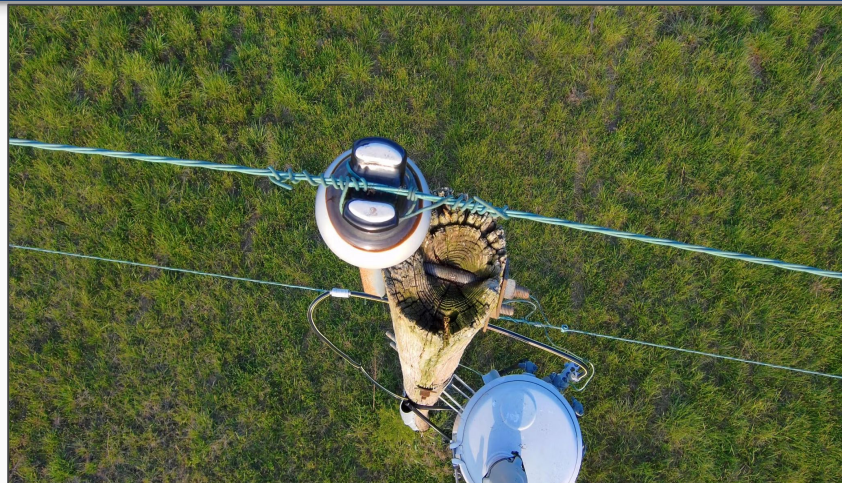
VALUE TO COA

Infrastructure



VALUE TO COA

Utilities



VALUE TO COA

Parks



VALUE TO COA

Homeless Camps



VALUE



TRACK & MEASURE

1. Total CFS assists
2. CFS cleared w/o patrol response
3. CFS where a drone or camera is first on scene
4. CFS where a drone or camera contributed to arrest or significant law enforcement activity

VALUE

LAKWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT

- ★ DFR - April 2025
 - 2,296 CFS
 - 41% of calls DFR only response
 - DFR first on scene 80%
- ★ RTCC -
 - Non-DFR RTCC Stats
 - 1,615 total CFS



GREELEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

- ★ Go-live December 2024
- ★ Cameras only - no DFR
- ★ 125 intersection cameras + 250 city cameras
- ★ 9,810 call assists in 2025
- ★ First on scene 4,674
- ★ 305 calls cleared w/o patrol response
- ★ Produced 606 video evidence files



Contract

Contract

Replaces Existing

- Body Worn Cameras
- Taser 10
- Axon Interview
- Fleet 3
- Evidence.com

Adds New Services

- DraftOne
- VR headsets for training
- Transcription

ARTIC

- 3 DFRs
- Docking Stations
- Software (Fusus)

Funding

Funding

- Total project cost of \$5,425,637.11
- Axon provided discounts to COA totalling approximately \$3,303,652.79 to reward the bulk purchase model.
- Total cost is spread out over 5 years

Cost per year breakdown:

2026: \$1,180,369.75

2027: \$1,061,316.84

2028: \$1,061,316.84

2029: \$1,061,316.84

2030: \$1,061,316.84

Department On-Boarding

Department On-Boarding

- Conduct targeted training sessions within each City department
 - Build awareness of ARTIC capabilities and services
 - Demonstrate tools and real-world applications
 - Collaborate with staff to identify department-specific needs
 - Align ARTIC support with departmental missions, goals, and daily operations



Legal Issues

MISCONCEPTIONS

- Not to be used for general surveillance
- Not to be used for traffic enforcement (may be used to provide evidence for crashes)

COMMITMENT & PROTECTIONS

- Protection of individual rights as governed by the United States Constitution, Federal Law, and State Law.
- Collection of public and private video streams to be used for legitimate law enforcement purposes only
- Secure data storage (OUR DATA)
- Material is archived for 14 days; may increase depending on need
- Annual reporting
- Audit processes
- ARTIC technicians will be FAA certified
- BVLOS waiver

Community Meetings / Transparency

Community Meetings

- **3 Community Meetings**

- West Woods 4/21 - 5:00 p.m.
- Headquarters 4/23 - 5:00 p.m.
- Lake Arbor 4/30 - 5:00 p.m.

- **Led by Cmd. Jason Ammon & DC Reeves**

- Supported by Cmd. Sheehan, & PIOs



Phased Implementation Approach

Implementation is Multi-phased

- Phase One:
 - Drone First Responder “DFR” program
 - Municipal Court Cameras
- Phase Two:
 - Existing City cameras
 - New cameras strategically throughout the City to monitor and detect wildfire smoke
- Phase Three:
 - Existing ALPR technology
 - Other technological components city wide as needed

