

Resolution approving the Orland Park Police Department's ("OPPD") Patrol Cruise Lights Pilot Program by activating steady blue and red cruise lights on marked police vehicles to increase visibility and deter crime.

WHEREAS, the public has called for increased law enforcement presence to promote public safety; and

WHEREAS, safety and crime prevention are top priorities for the Orland Park Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the visibility of law enforcement plays a critical role in deterring criminal activity and enhancing public safety; and

WHEREAS, marked police vehicles are intended to be visible to the public to signal law enforcement's presence, deter crime, and increase public safety; and

WHEREAS, research, such as the Routine Activity Theory¹, suggests that the visible presence of a "capable guardian" (such as patrolling officers) is a significant deterrent to criminal activity, supporting the importance of highly visible patrols in maintaining a secure environment; and

WHEREAS, the use of steady blue and red cruise lights aligns with public safety strategies aimed at preventing crime through environmental and psychological design; and

WHEREAS, the use of steady blue and red cruise lights during routine patrol has been shown to reduce crime and reinforce continuous law enforcement presence in cities including but not limited to Williamson County, IL, Wilmington, NC, Miami, FL, Kansas City, MO, and Worcester, MA; and

WHEREAS, research from BetaGov² (The Marron Institute of Urban Management at New York University) found that cruise lights deter vehicle thefts and burglaries; and

WHEREAS, marked OPPD vehicles are already equipped with steady blue and red cruise light technology, making this a low-cost measure to increase law enforcement's visibility, deter crime, and enhance public safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK:

¹ Cohen, Lawrence E., and Marcus K. Felson-[Routine Activity Theory](#).pdf

² <https://www.betagov.org/completed-trials/Patrol-cruise-lights.pdf>

Section 1. The foregoing Recitals are incorporated herein by reference as though fully set forth.

Section 2. That the Orland Park Police Department's ("OPPD") Patrol Cruise Lights Pilot Program is hereby approved.

Section 3. Nothing in this Resolution shall be interpreted as requiring the activation of steady blue and red cruise lights while responding to calls for service or during traffic stops, undercover, or tactical or emergency operations in which visibility could compromise officer safety.

Section 4. Before the pilot program begins, extensive public education and clear communication will be shared with the public.

Section 5. After the pilot program ends, the Police Department will report back to the Village Board with an assessment of its impact and effectiveness and provide a recommendation whether to permanently implement the cruise light program or to discontinue the program.