




PUBLIC SAFETY SUCCESS STORY

ShotSpotter is a Critical Component of Lancaster's Hybrid Policing Model

CITY	POPULATION	COVERAGE AREA	PRODUCT USED	CUSTOMER SINCE
LANCASTER, CA	166,236	4.0 SQ. MI	 ShotSpotter®	2024

SITUATION

In late 2023, the Lancaster Police Department partnered with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to develop a hybrid policing model that emphasized collaboration, community engagement, and shared responsibility. As part of this model, investing in innovative technology to ensure the safety and protection of residents, particularly given an increase in violent crime and a high rate of unreported gunfire, became a critical priority. In February 2024, the City of Lancaster approved the deployment of ShotSpotter gunshot detection technology. Since its implementation, the technology has demonstrated its value in many situations.

RESULTS

In March 2024, ShotSpotter alerted the Lancaster Police Department and LASD to 40 rounds of gunfire in front of a property, an incident that no one called in to 9-1-1. Because of this alert, deputies were able to promptly arrive at the scene and effectively respond. Additionally, ShotSpotter played an important role in facilitating neighborhood outreach efforts. Shortly after responding to the gunfire, police sent out a survey to check in on residents' well-being, improving trust and general rapport between police and the community.



ShotSpotter has been instrumental to Lancaster's hybrid policing approach, providing critical technology that helps us protect our community. The system not only alerts us to shootings that aren't being reported, but also enables us to identify neighborhoods where residents are afraid to call for help. This dual benefit allows our team to follow up with meaningful community engagement while supporting the Sheriff's Department's emergency response, ultimately building trust and making Lancaster safer.

Chief RODRICK ARMALIN, Lancaster Police Department

In September 2024, ShotSpotter picked up 25 rounds of gunfire at a park that were never called in to 9-1-1. With the time and location of the ShotSpotter alert readily available, the LPD Intelligence Crime Center in conjunction with LASD Operation Safer Streets Unit were able to pull video from nearby traffic cameras and identify a vehicle and two suspects, including one who was unknown to law enforcement.

How ShotSpotter Benefits Lancaster Police Department

SAVES LIVES

A ShotSpotter alert led the LASD deputies to a vacant lot where they found a gunshot wound victim. Police rendered aid and saved the victim's life in yet another instance where no 9-1-1 calls were received.

GUNFIRE ALERTS WHEN NO ONE CALLS 9-1-1

ShotSpotter alerts ensure that first responders promptly arrive at the correct location, with or without a 9-1-1 call.

FORENSIC EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

ShotSpotter alerts provide valuable evidentiary data in the courtroom. In one notable Lancaster example, a ShotSpotter alert picked up three rounds of gunfire. During the investigation, the suspect claimed self-defense. However, ShotSpotter's Investigative Lead Summary (ILS) report contained the shot sequence, revealing that the suspect fired first and ultimately refuting the self-defense claim.

COMMUNITY TRUST AND ENGAGEMENT

Proactive policing efforts foster stronger relationships with the community, demonstrating a commitment to crime prevention and public safety.



To learn more, scan the QR code or visit:
soundthinking.com/safetysmart-platform

