

Portland Police Bureau - Investigations Branch

Small Unmanned Aerial System  
(sUAS)

Pilot Project Update and Recommendations  
Portland City Council  
August 2024

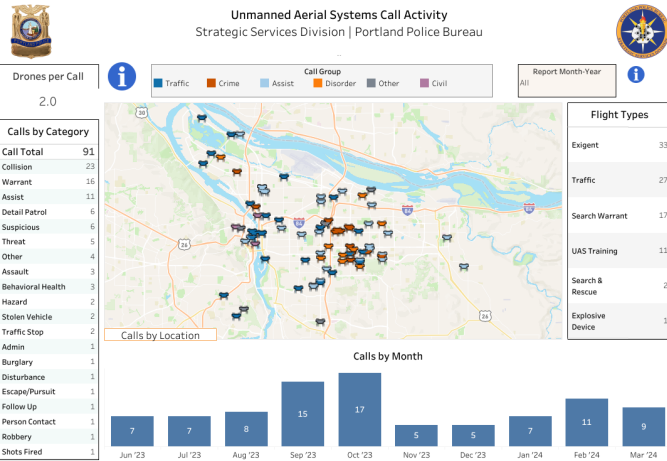
## Current Pilot Project sUAS Applications

- Investigation of potential explosive devices and hazardous materials
- High-risk Search and Arrest Missions and Search Warrants, where it was likely the suspect was armed
- Search and Rescue
- Traffic Crash documentation and reconstruction

# Transparency and Compliance

## Portland Police Bureau

Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) Pilot Project  
Year-end report  
April 2024



## Portland Police Bureau Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Program Privacy Impact Assessment

Final and released version.

Smart City PDX  
May 31, 2024

Small Unmanned Aircraft System COA  
Public Agency  
2024-WSA-14448-COA

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA) CERTIFICATE OF WAIVER OR AUTHORIZATION (COA)	
<b>ISSUED TO:</b> City of Portland - Portland Police Bureau	<b>Part 91</b>
<b>ADDRESS:</b> 449 NE Emerson St Portland, OR 97211	
This certificate is issued for the operations specifically described hereinafter. No person shall conduct any operation pursuant to the authority of this certificate, except in accordance with the standard and special provisions contained in this certificate, and such other requirements of the Federal Aviation Regulations not specifically waived by this certificate.	
<b>OPERATIONS AUTHORIZED:</b> Operation of small unmanned aircraft system(s) weighing less than 55 pounds and operating at speeds of less than 87 knots (100 miles per hour [mph]) in Class C, D, and E airspace at or below 400 feet above ground level (AGL) in the city of Portland, Oregon, located within portions of Multnomah, Washington, and Clackamas Counties, under the jurisdiction of Portland Airport Traffic Control Tower (PDX), Troutdale Airport Traffic Control Tower (TTD), and Portland Terminal Radar Approach Control (P80). See Attachment 1.	
<b>KEY WAIVER INFORMATION BY SECTION AND TITLE:</b> Tactical beyond visual line of sight (TBVLOS) waiver to 14 CFR § 91.113(b)	
<b>STANDARD PROVISIONS</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A copy of the application made for this certificate shall be attached and become a part hereof.</li> <li>This certificate shall be presented for inspection upon the request of any authorized representative of the FAA or of any state or municipal official charged with the duty of enforcing local laws or regulations.</li> <li>The holder of this certificate shall be responsible for the strict observance of the terms and provisions contained herein.</li> <li>This certificate is nontransferable.</li> </ol>	
<b>Notes:</b> This certificate constitutes a waiver of those Federal rules or regulations specifically referred to above. It does not constitute a waiver of any state law or local ordinance.	
<b>SPECIAL PROVISIONS</b>	
Special Provisions A through J are set forth on the reverse side hereof.	
This certificate is effective from <u>March 19, 2024</u> to <u>March 18, 2026</u> and is subject to cancellation at any time upon notice by the Administrator or his/her authorized representative.	
<b>BY DIRECTION OF THE ADMINISTRATOR</b>	
<b>ADAM A VETTER</b>  FAA Western Service Area (Region)	Digitally signed by ADAM A VETTER Date: 2024.04.19 17:01:17 -0700 <b>Adam Vetter</b> (Signature)  Tactical Operations Manager (Title)

# Lessons Learned and Recommendations

# Expansion

- Modeled on existing Oregon Law on police use of UAS and aligned with all local agency partners
- Provides trained patrol personnel to respond immediately, reducing personnel time and increasing odds of safer resolutions.
- Allows drones to be used to support Stolen Vehicle missions, Street Racing missions, organized retail theft missions, and many other initiatives that improve our ability to safely respond, identify and document criminal activity and guide ground officers to suspects.
- Expands crime scene processing outside Traffic Division. Large outdoor crime scenes could often be comprehensively documented in less time using UAS.
- Supports requests from other city bureaus to provide well trained and equipped UAS pilots. Bull Run watershed surveys (Water), Disaster Site and damage evaluations (PBEM), Fire scene intelligence and investigation (PFB), Traffic Modeling, Bridge and road inspections (PBOT), etc.
- Once aligned on SOP, work with Gresham police and other local agencies to provide Mutual Aid and explore new technology.