

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A THREE-YEAR RENEWAL CONTRACT NO. NB24-250C OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH SOUNDTHINKING, INC., FOR SHOTSPOTTER DETECTION TECHNOLOGIES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,100,012.00, FOR THE SPRINGFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT, AS AMENDED

Amendment 1 (Revised) to 2026-447: This amendment establishes requirements for ShotSpotter accuracy, sensor placement, annual reporting, resource deployment, privacy, and public accountability.

WHEREAS, the City of Springfield is a home rule unit as defined in Article VII, Section 6(a) of the 1970 Illinois Constitution and has jurisdiction over matters pertaining to its government and affairs; and

WHEREAS, the City Council previously passed ordinance 312-07-23 authorizing a three-year professional services agreement with SoundThinking, Inc., to provide annual Shotspotter subscription services from May 7, 2023, through May 6, 2026, in the amount of \$870,188.00, for the Springfield Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Soundthinking, Inc., is willing to provide a three-year professional services agreement Contract No. NB24-250C, for Quote No. SPFLDIL042926, for ShotSpotter detection technology from May 7, 2027, through May 7, 2029, for the Springfield Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the City Purchasing Agent has made a determination in writing that this contract is exempt from the provisions of the City Purchasing Code requiring sealed competitive bidding pursuant to the exceptions contained in Section 38.40 pertaining to Sole Source Procurement; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City to authorize this three-year renewal with Soundthinking, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, a copy of the Agreement shall be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS:

Section 1: That the City Council hereby authorizes a three-year renewal of a professional services agreement Contract No. NB24-250C, for Quote No. SPFLDIL042926, with Soundthinking, Inc. for ShotSpotter detection technology from May 7, 2027, through May 7, 2029, in an amount not to exceed \$1,100,012.00, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in Exhibit A. A copy of the renewal agreement shall be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

Section 2: That the Office of Budget and Management is hereby authorized to pay annual payments totaling \$1,100,012.00 to Soundthinking, Inc. (VC*6878) from account number 001-112-POLC-POPR-1605 as follows:

FY27 Expense: \$347,561.00

FY28 Expense: \$376,227.00

FY29 Expense: \$376,227.00

Section 3: That this ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its passage and recording by the City Clerk.

PASSED: _____, 2026

SIGNED: _____, 2026

RECORDED: _____, 2026

Mayor Misty Buscher

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk Charles L. Redpath Sr.

Approved as to legal sufficiency:

Requested by: Mayor Misty Buscher


10.20.26
Office of Corporation Counsel/Date

Sponsored by: ~~Brad Carlson~~
~~Ralph Hanauer~~
~~Jeff Cox~~ Alderman Shawn Gregory

Exhibit A

ShotSpotter/SoundThinking Accountability and Oversight

Section 1. Purpose and Application

This exhibit establishes requirements for ShotSpotter/SoundThinking accuracy, sensor placement, annual reporting, resource deployment, privacy, and public accountability, subject to applicable law and existing contractual obligations.

Section 2. Annual Reporting Before Budget Season

The Springfield Police Department shall publish and present an annual report to the Mayor and City Council before annual budget consideration. The report shall include:

1. Total alerts, confirmed gunfire incidents, false positives, and the percentages of confirmed and false alerts, including the methodology used to calculate accuracy.
2. The top three geographic locations with the highest numbers of confirmed gunfire incidents, including incident counts and relevant geographic and time-based trends.
3. Recommendations deployment of police, emergency response, and community violence-prevention resources, vacant housing, lighting based on verified gunfire data and documented community needs.

Section 3. Independent Evaluation and Data-Informed Deployment

The City shall arrange for an independent evaluation at least annually, subject to available funding and applicable requirements, examining accuracy, false positives, missed incidents where measurable, sensor placement, geographic coverage, response times, outcomes, costs, and potential disparities.

Consistent with SoundThinking's published guidance on analyzing gunfire patterns and directing resources, the Department shall use verified data and other reliable information to inform public-safety and community violence-prevention strategies. Consistent with civil-liberties concerns raised by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), the City shall independently assess system performance, potential over-policing, geographic disparities, and the limitations of alerts. Alert volume alone shall not justify increased enforcement or expanded surveillance. Evaluation methods and findings shall be made public.

Section 4. Privacy and Civil Liberties

The City shall maintain safeguards governing data access, retention, security, and disclosure and prohibit unauthorized data use. ShotSpotter alerts shall be treated as investigative leads, not proof of a crime or individual guilt. All enforcement actions must comply with applicable law and departmental policy.

Section 5. Public Oversight and Funding Decisions

The annual report shall be published on the SPD Transparency website as such and presented at a public City Council meeting before contract renewal, expansion, or new discretionary funding decisions. Residents shall have an opportunity to comment. The Council shall consider accuracy, confirmed gunfire locations, resource deployment recommendations, independent evaluation findings, costs, privacy, civil liberties, and feasible alternatives before making funding decisions.

Missing information shall be publicly identified with a corrective timeline. To the extent permitted by law and existing contractual obligations, required performance information shall be reviewed before approval of new discretionary funding or system expansion.

Section 6. Alignment With Published Recommendations

This amendment incorporates SoundThinking's published operational guidance on analyzing gunfire patterns, measuring outcomes, and informing resource deployment, while addressing ACLU concerns about false alerts, independent verification, unequal sensor coverage, over-policing, transparency, and privacy. These provisions establish local accountability requirements.

References

- SoundThinking, [ShotSpotter Technology Improvements](#).
- SoundThinking, [ShotSpotter and Gun Crime Response](#).
- ACLU, [Four Problems with the ShotSpotter Gunshot Detection System](#).