

## Information Item

**Date:** August 14, 2023

**To:** Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Members of the City Council

**From:** Patrice Toney, Assistant City Manager  
William H. Penn, Jr., Chief of Police

**Subject:**

Information on SoundThinking, formerly ShotSpotter, and an update based on the cost-benefit analysis conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of the technology.

**Strategic Focus Area:** Safe and Secure Community

**Strategic Objective:** No

**Strategic Plan Action Item:** No

**Key Work Item:** No



The Gun Crime Intelligence Center grant, awarded to the Winton-Salem Police Department (WSPD), in 2019, funded the 3-year deployment of gunshot detection system technology in the city. SoundThinking, formerly known as ShotSpotter, was deployed in a 3 square mile radius within the City in August of 2021. Dennis Mares with the Center for Crime Science and Violence Prevention of Southern Illinois University agreed to conduct a cost-benefit analysis, free of charge, of SoundThinking on behalf of the WSPD. The study examined 18 months of data to evaluate the effectiveness of the technology. WSPD will provide an overview of the study and its results.