



ShotSpotter and Winston-Salem: Working Together to Save Lives and Take Firearms Off the Streets

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In a time in which police work has never been more challenging, we offer a way forward - technology and guidance to help save lives, solve more crimes and restore trust with the community.

RALPH CLARK, President and CEO, SoundThinking

Making a Big Difference in Winston-Salem, NC

The city of Winston-Salem has scheduled to decommission the gun detection technology ShotSpotter at the end of September 2024. ShotSpotter listens and alerts first responders to gunfire incidents in less than a minute, so they can respond quickly, get to the scene, and save lives.

Learn more about the positive impacts of ShotSpotter below.

102

Arrests related to ShotSpotter alerts

5 Minute

Reduction in Response Time

-26%

Reduction of Aggravated Assaults

51-75

Fewer Assaults Annually

~\$8.5 million

Annual savings due to ShotSpotter

\$26 ROI

For every \$1 invested in ShotSpotter

Source: "The Impact of ShotSpotter Deployment in Winston-Salem, NC"
Professor Dennis Mares, Center for Crime Science and Violence Prevention,
Southern Illinois University
[Access Full Report ↗](#)



Gunshot Detection Saves Lives in Winston-Salem, NC



▶ Watch video

A shooting incident with multiple victims took place in Winston-Salem. The second victim's life was saved by a ShotSpotter alert.

Scan the QR code to hear more from **Officer BRADLEY SCHAFFER, Winston-Salem PD**



What is ShotSpotter® ?

Police rely on the community to call 9-1-1 if gunshots are fired, but only 20% of incidents are ever reported on average. This creates a situation where police departments have a large data gap that makes it difficult to be able to effectively “serve and protect” when it comes to gun violence. SoundThinking’s ShotSpotter acoustic gunshot detection technology fills the gap with a network of acoustic sensors that can detect, locate, and alert police to nearly all gunshot incidents. The system is in operation in more than 170 cities and is used by police to:

- Be able to respond to a higher percentage of gunfire incidents;
- Improve response times to crime scenes to better aid victims and find witnesses; and
- Help police locate key evidence to identify and investigate suspects



Click the link below or scan the QR code to learn more about ShotSpotter.

[Learn More About ShotSpotter ↗](#)

Winston-Salem, NC Success Story with ShotSpotter

ShotSpotter’s gunshot detection system was deployed in Winston-Salem in August 2021. Since then, nearly 2,000 alerts received a response by Winston-Salem Police.

PUBLIC SAFETY SUCCESS STORY
Winston-Salem Police Department Saves Lives and Takes Firearms Off the Streets

CITY	POPULATION	COVERAGE AREA	PRODUCT USED	CUSTOMER SINCE
WINSTON-SALEM, NC	245,787	3 SQ. MI	ShotSpotter®	AUGUST 2021

SITUATION
 Prior to the installation of ShotSpotter, nearly 80% of gun crime went unreported in Winston-Salem. The subsequent lack of police response left offenders at large to commit more crimes and eroded the community's trust in law enforcement. To address the issue, the WSPD implemented SoundThinking's ShotSpotter gunshot detection system in August 2021.

RESULTS
 One year after ShotSpotter implementation, the WSPD reported that there had been 2,200 total ShotSpotter alerts, 70% of which did not have a corresponding 9-1-1 call for service. With ShotSpotter's 99% detection rate, law enforcement can respond to calls faster and with greater situational awareness, provide emergency care to victims, and collect more evidence. The greater levels of responsiveness improve the community's trust in law enforcement and strengthen relations between the police and the community.

How ShotSpotter Benefits Winston-Salem PD

- SAVING LIVES**
 Every second matters for shooting victims. ShotSpotter ensures responders are notified quickly with an accurate location, allowing them to provide prompt medical care and save lives.
- EVIDENCE COLLECTION**
 One year after the implementation of ShotSpotter, the WSPD received 3476 shell casings as well as 47 firearms.

STRONGER COMMUNITY

47	27	2
Firearms recovered	Victims aided	Lives saved

Click the link below or scan the QR code to read the **Winston-Salem Success Story**

[Read Success Story ↗](#)



Hear Directly from the Winston-Salem Community: Engagement Overview



TOTAL REACH

82,556



TOTAL NUMBER OF SUPPORT
FORMS SUBMITTED

92



TOTAL IMPRESSIONS

218,865



POST ENGAGEMENTS

2,896



POST COMMENTS

214

Featured Comments from the Winston-Salem Community

M. C. • 27103

As a firefighter with City of Winston-Salem, I have personally witnessed the many benefits of this program. The number of lives this system has saved are countless. These victims of gun violence are getting help so much faster now due to officers getting the alert and immediately investigating and finding many of these gun shot victims in the streets and off the roadways. As emergency responders we have very accurate information on where these shootings originate so we know exact areas to stage away until police secures the scene. This keeps us out of harms away and makes it much safer for everyone. Funding needs to be allocated to continue supporting this program to keep us all safer while saving many lives by expediting response.



A. V. • 27105

Shot spotter is a critical part of handling gunfire incidents.



J. G. • 27105

I absolutely support this!! Too many guns in the hands of careless people shooting everywhere, all the time, without good cause!



T. M. • 27106

God bless you all and grant you grace peace, wisdom, and strength as you do your very important work and bless you all



C. B. • 27107

How do you get this in our neighborhood? Who do we contact?
I have gunfire in my neighborhood all the time.



Featured Comments from the Winston-Salem Community



N. R. • 27107

I feel that this will save a lot of lives, ,because quick response in many cases are necessary. Once a gun is fired, bullet cannot be stopped. Forsyth county needs to realize. Our citizens are dying due to shootings. It not a rich, middle class, poor problem. It's all of us, move forward and let us help save lives.



S. H. • 27103

I am strongly in favor of the WSPD using ShotSpotter.



J. W. • 27105

I support this project. The use of it needs to be implemented by one entity and not over shared so we tie up every resource to a scene. Bring back community policing and demilitarize law enforcement, we are not in a war zone so don't treat its people that way. This is the only way to start change in community.



Y. F. • 27105

Don't ever let it go it helps and some are even treading lightly.



J. H. • 27103

I log my support it is much needed now days in this world.



G. M. • 27405

Yes please respond to gunfire



M. M. • 27106

Would like more definitive info on success. What is the cost?



T. N. • 27127

I wish it worked in my neighborhood, sounds like war here on the weekends. Why decommission, is it expensive?



M. W. • 27127

I was calling if I hear rapid fire near my house because they seems to be a lot of action on this side of town

Featured Comments from the Winston-Salem Community



J. P. • 27106

I think shotspotter really helps when there are gun shots. I lived in NJ and I know Newark had it also. I was on jury duty in Newark and I know it really help the police officers. I think if everyone knew we had this they would feel safer.



M. D. • 27051

100% in the City Limit.



T. D. • 27127

Don't abandon this program. It saves lives!!!



W. P. • 27127

This is what every bad area needs yes it does save life u got my vote or help



A. T. • 27284

Keep ShotSpotter from the money you're spending on illegal aliens.



S. C. • 27105

I support keep it up



T. C. • 27284

By all means



V. S. • 27104

I used to work professionally with troubled families in southeast WS. When there are shootings, often there are children nearby. Response to gun fire needs to be there immediately for the good of all.



B. M. • 27045

Need in the county



P. D. • 27104

I support Shot Spotter

Featured Comments from the Winston-Salem Community



D. S. • 27103

It's very important to keep this program!! It protects the community, and the people who reside in it.s



L. R. • 27105

Shots are often fired in my neighborhood and I call but it is happening more often as new people move in. Especially on holidays. Firing a gun into the air instead of fire crackers but bullets must come down and I don't want to get shot.



M. P. • 27107

Why would you not want it?



C. K. • 27101

PLEASE DO THIS FOR THE HEALTH OF OUR CITY AND ITS CITIZENS ! More and more gun violence is occuring and we need any kind of rapid response possible. Our city should no longer be ranked as the 25th most dangerous city in the nation... let's change it.



B. F. • 27107

Please keep shot spotter



S. C. • 27105

This is very necessary in Winston Salem,the deaths from guns is rising everyday.




D. H. • 27101

I support shot spotter wholeheartedly and I ask that you not get rid of it.

Winston-Salem Residents Expressing Their Support for ShotSpotter Via Facebook

SoundThinking Inc.
August 2 at 4:05 PM · 🌐

Do you support rapid response to gunfire in Winston-Salem, NC?



GO.SOUNDTHINKING.COM
Log Support to Keep ShotSpotter
The city of Winston-Salem has scheduled to decommission the gun d... [Learn more](#)

📣 Boost this post to reach up to 12277 more people if you spend \$80. [Boost post](#)

👍❤️ 46 17 comments 3 shares



Bill Corlett Sr
Absolutely

6d



Mark Cormack
Yep

1d



Katherine Piazza
Yes

1d



James Adams
Well yes!!!

5d



Kay Shouse Brown
Yes

1d



Cathie Guarantano
What? Of course

5d



Lorraine Jensen
Is this really a question. Duh

6d



Collette Hardy
Absolutely

2d



Rodricaus Hicks
Yes

5d



Greg Vernon
Yes most definitely.

5d



Debbie Millirons
Yes

5d



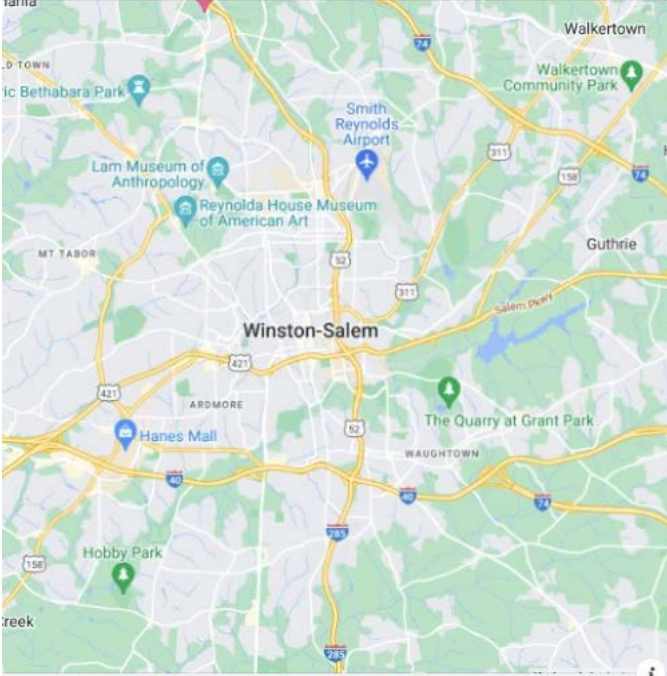
Romie Miller
Yes

1w

Winston-Salem Residents Expressing Their Support for ShotSpotter Via Facebook

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August 2 at 4:05 PM · 🌐

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👍❤️ 51 44 comments 4 shares



Natividad Alicea
Yes

1d



Liz Yarro
Yes!

21h



Kathy Slatton Helms
Yes.

1w



Allan Caporuscio
Yes

6d



Judy Robbins
Of course.....they could save a life!

4d



Teresa Edwards
Yes

3d



Michael Green
I do now!

6d



Kathy Slatton Helms
Yes!!! Of course,!!!!

6d

(Responses to this post continued on next page)

Winston-Salem Residents Expressing Their Support for ShotSpotter Via Facebook



Zachary E Sharp

I do actually! I'm tired of hearing gunshots go off in my neighborhood. I'm hoping a stray bullet doesn't decide to hit my kids or wife one day and take them out of this world. It's insane people think it is ok to do that in a heavily populated neighborhood. Not to mention they would catch a big felony charge if caught and convicted.

1w



Andrea Ross
Yes

...

1h



Kathy Langdon Schneider

It's been effective in other cities

20h



Hiram Lora
Yes!

4d



Terri Ziglar

YES I DO SUPPORT IT 100 PERCENT!!!!!!

1w



Debra Pyles Shipman
Yes!!

1w



Cynthia F. Key
Yes

4d



Stu Miller
Yes

5d



Teresa Edwards
Yes

3d



Melanie Nachlas
Yes, yes, yes!

3d



Tom Aamland
Yes


3d




Marlon Williams
Yes I'll support it.

6d

Winston-Salem Residents Expressing Their Support for ShotSpotter Via Facebook

 **SoundThinking Inc.**
August 2 at 4:05 PM · 🌐


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📣 Boost this post to reach up to 12277 more people if you spend \$80. [Boost post](#)

👍👎🔥❤️ 20 11 comments 3 shares

 **Orson Abbott**
YES, Get Here
1w

 **Rick Hunter**
Yep. I support it.
1w

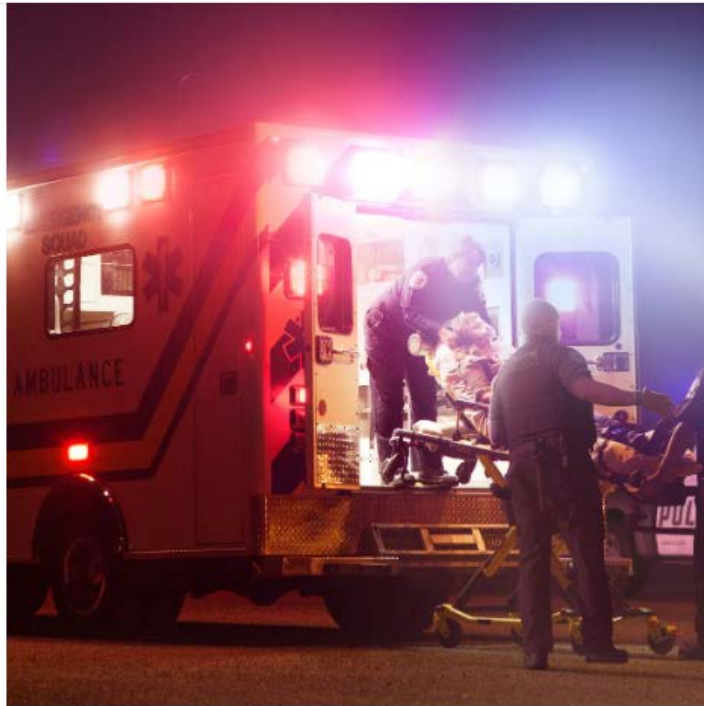
Winston-Salem Residents Expressing Their Support for ShotSpotter Via Facebook



SoundThinking Inc.
August 9 at 11:46 AM · 🌐



Do you support rapid response to gunfire in Winston-Salem, NC?



GO.SOUNDTHINKING.COM

Log Support to Keep ShotSpotter

ShotSpotter and Winston-Salem have been working together to quickly r...

[Learn more](#)

📣 Boost this post to reach up to 9081 more people if you spend \$70.

[Boost post](#)

👍❤️ 45

27 comments 4 shares



Susan Johnson



2d



Jimmy Boyd



1w



Joseph Herron



2w



Elizabeth Donahoe

Absolutely needs to be every where these days and times

2w 2 👍