



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: TBD

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Chief's Staff, Police Department

SUBJECT: An Ordinance Adopting an Equipment Use Policy per Assembly Bill 481

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopt an Ordinance establishing a Military Equipment Use Policy for the Santa Barbara Police Department.

DISCUSSION:

Assembly Bill Number 481 (AB 481), codified at Government Code sections 7070 through 7075, requires the Santa Barbara Police Department (SBPD) to obtain approval from City Council of its military equipment use policy by ordinance by April 30, 2022, in order to continue the use of this previously acquired equipment effective May 1, 2022.

The term "military equipment", as used in AB 481, does not necessarily indicate equipment used by the military. Items deemed to be "military equipment" include, but are not limited to, unmanned aerial or ground vehicles, armored vehicles, command and control vehicles, pepper balls, less lethal shotguns, less lethal 40mm projectile launchers, long range acoustic devices, and flashbangs. The list of items considered "military equipment" by AB 481 are employed by many law enforcement agencies across the country as best practices to enhance citizen and officer safety.

Provided as an attachments is the inventory list of military equipment that the SBPD maintains. Also attached is the SBPD's military Equipment use policy. The use of the military equipment identified on the inventory list is vital to SBPD's mission and will continue to be strictly regulated through internal processes and oversight.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

The cost of the current equipment is presently funded and included in the Fiscal Year budget for 2023. No new equipment that is applicable to Assembly Bill 481 is slated for purchase during the listed timeframe.

ATTACHMENTS: 1. SBPD Military Equipment inventory
2. SBPD Military Equipment Use Policy
3. Ordinance

PREPARED BY: Joshua Morton, Lieutenant

SUBMITTED BY: Bernard Melekian, Interim Chief of Police

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office