



PUBLIC HEARING

California Assembly Bill 481 Military Equipment Use Policy

**City Council Regular Meeting
February 10, 2025**



Summary



Tonight, the Police Department is requesting that the City Council hold a public hearing to consider an Ordinance amending Chapter 9.20, titled "Military Equipment Use Policy", by incorporating funding, acquisition, and use of new military equipment for the Lathrop Police Department.

Additionally, staff requests that the City Council adopt a Resolution accepting the Annual Military Equipment Report, summarizing the equipment use and funding from the last approval, January 2024 to date.

Background



On September 30, 2021, Governor Newsom signed seven major peace officer reform bills into law, including Assembly Bill 481 (AB 481).

AB 481 addresses the funding, acquisition and use of items lawmakers deem to be considered military equipment.

AB 481, codified in Government Code Sections 7070-7075, requires local Police Departments to implement a new military equipment use policy via ordinance, prior to taking certain actions relating to the funding, acquisition, or use of military equipment.

Background: Prior Ordinances



June 13, 2022 - the City Council adopted Ordinance 22-436, amending Title 9 “Public Peace and Welfare” of the Lathrop Municipal Code (LMC) by adding Chapter 9.20 titled “Military Equipment Use Policy” to establish a policy for the proper use, funding and acquisition of military style equipment as set forth by AB 481.

Military Equipment Use Policy No. 706 authorized the new Lathrop Police Department to fund, acquire, and use thirty-five 5.56mm semiautomatic rifles and ammunition, and eight 40mm launchers and rounds.

Background: Prior Ordinances



December 12, 2022 - the City Council adopted Ordinance 22-441, amending Chapter 9.20, by adding Section 9.20.050 titled “Active Policies” to incorporate new Lathrop Police Department Policy No. 606, regulating “Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Operations”, and formally codifying previously approved Military equipment Use Policy No. 706, in compliance with AB 481.

Military Equipment Use Policy No. 606 authorized the Police Department to fund, acquire, and use four UAS operations, more commonly known as drones.

Background: Prior Ordinances



January 8, 2024 - the City Council adopted Ordinance 24-453, amending Chapter 9.20 titled “Military Equipment Use Policy”, amending Section 9.20.050 titled “Active Policies” to update the existing Military Equipment List for Military Equipment Use Policy No. 706.

This ordinance added the funding, acquisition and use of eleven 5.56mm semiautomatic rifles and ammunition, eight Remington 870 less lethal launchers and drag stabilized 12-gauge bean bag rounds, 50 sets of five units of super-sock bean bags ammunition, and 3,000 5.56mm and 9mm specialty impact munitions.

Requirements of AB 481



Publish the draft military equipment use policy to the Police Department's website 30 days ahead of a public hearing to approve the policy.

Obtain approval by the applicable governing body, by adoption of a military equipment use policy prior to taking certain actions relating to the funding, acquisition, or use of military equipment, as defined.

Publish an annual report by the law enforcement agency to include each type of military equipment approved by the governing body.

Requirements of AB 481



Annual review of the military equipment use ordinance by the governing body, and option to either disapprove a renewal of a type of military equipment or amend the military equipment use policy if it determines that the military equipment does not comply with standards for approval.

Hold at least one well publicized and conveniently located community engagement meeting within 30 days of submitting and publicly releasing the annual military equipment report.

Public Notice



On January 9, 2025, the City published the revised Military Equipment List for Military Equipment Use Policy No. 706 and the Annual Military Equipment Report on the dedicated Police Department AB 481 web page.

The Public Hearing Notice for tonight's meeting was also published with the Manteca Bulletin on January 10, 2025.

New Equipment Proposed for Policy No. 706

Military Equipment Use



01 5.56mm Semiautomatic Rifles and Ammunition

Ten additional Daniel Defense rifles and ammunition. Estimated cost of \$34,000.



New Equipment Proposed for Policy No. 706

Military Equipment Use



02 40mm Launchers

Twenty additional Def Tech 40mm Launchers. Estimated cost \$24,060.



03 Frangible Impact Rounds

Ninety-six CTS 40mm Frangible Impact Rounds. Estimated cost \$10,129.



New Equipment Proposed for Policy No. 706

Military Equipment Use

04 Tactical Flash Bangs

Twenty-four CTS 7290M Tactical Flash Bangs. Estimated cost \$1,483.



New Equipment Proposed for Policy No. 706

Military Equipment Use

05 Command and Control Vehicles

SWAT Quick Response Vehicle (QRV). Estimated cost \$66,547.



New Equipment Proposed for Policy No. 706

Military Equipment Use

05 Command and Control Vehicles

One Mobile Command Post and one Crime Scene Investigation vehicle. These would be sourced through the Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) program. This is a military surplus program that allows law enforcement agencies to source specified equipment for free.



New Equipment Proposed for Policy No. 706

Military Equipment Use

05 Command and Control Vehicles

One Lenco BearCat G3 or similar armored rescue vehicle. Estimated cost \$369,045. This cost will be offset by grant funding and use of LESO program.

An armored rescue vehicle is capable of responding to emergencies in rough rural terrain or natural disaster scenarios that may restrict standard on-road vehicles with its upgraded heavy-duty suspension, increased ground clearance, off-road wheels, and run-flat tires. The BearCat G3 accommodates 10–12 fully equipped personnel while providing maneuverable ballistic protection.



New Equipment Proposed for Policy No. 706

Military Equipment Use

06 Sniper Rifle with Suppressor

One LWRC REPR MKII sniper rifle. Estimated cost \$5,899.



New Equipment Proposed for Policy No. 706

Military Equipment Use

07 Submachine Guns with Suppressors

Six Proforce MPX submachine guns wth suppressors. Estimated cost \$12,049.



Council Requested Actions



- Hold a Public Hearing to hear testimony regarding the proposed Ordinance and Annual Report
- Introduce and conduct the first reading of the proposed Ordinance amending Chapter 9.20, of Title 9, by amending Section 9.20.050 titled “Active Policies” to update existing Military Equipment Use Policy No. 706, by incorporating funding, acquisition, and use of new military equipment for the Lathrop Police Department, in compliance with Government Code Sections 7070-7075, pursuant to Assembly Bill 481.
- Adopt a Resolution accepting the 2024 Annual Military Equipment Report summarizing the equipment use and funding from the previous approval, January 2024 to date.

Lathrop Police Department



Military Equipment Use

