



City of  
**Mountain  
View**

# AB 481

## Military Equipment Funding, Acquisition, and Use Policy

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- Background on Assembly Bill 481
- Present draft Military Equipment Funding, Acquisition, and Use Policy that is being recommended for City Council adoption
- Questions and Answers
- Discussion

- September 30, 2021 Gov. Newsom signed 8 police reform bills, including AB 481
- Increase transparency, accountability, oversight for acquisition and use of equipment
- Provide safeguards to protect public's welfare, safety, civil rights and liberties
- Create public forum for input and engagement

- Council approval of military equipment policy for continued use of items purchased prior to January 1, 2022
- Annual report to summarize:
  - Equipment usage and updates
  - Document internal audits
  - Summarize community feedback
- Annual community engagement meeting
- Annual renewal of policy by Council

- 1) Unmanned, remotely piloted, powered aerial or ground vehicles.
- 2) Mine-resistant ambush-protected (MRAP) vehicles or armored personnel carriers. However, police versions of standard consumer vehicles are specifically excluded from this subdivision.
- 3) High-mobility multi-purpose wheeled vehicles (HMMWV, commonly referred to as Humvees), two-and-one-half-ton trucks, five-ton trucks, or wheeled vehicles that have a breaching or entry apparatus attached. However, unarmored all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and motorized dirt bikes are specifically excluded from this subdivision.
- 4) Tracked armored vehicles that provide ballistic protection to their occupants and utilize a tracked system instead of wheels for forward motion.
- 5) Command and control vehicles that are either built or modified to facilitate the operational control and direction of public safety units.
- 6) Weaponized aircraft, vessels, or vehicles of any kind.
- 7) Battering rams, slugs, and breaching apparatuses that are explosive in nature. However, items that are designed to remove a lock, such as bolt cutters, or a handheld ram designed to be operated by one person, are specifically excluded from this subdivision.

# AB 481 Equipment Categories cont.

- 8) Firearms of .50 caliber or greater. However, standard-issue shotguns are specifically excluded from this subdivision.
- 9) Ammunition of .50 caliber or greater. However, standard-issue shotgun ammunition is specifically excluded from this subdivision.
- 10) Specialized firearms and ammunition of less than .50 caliber, including assault weapons as defined in Sections 30510 and 30515 of the Penal Code, with the exception of standard-issue service weapons and ammunition of less than .50 caliber that are issued to officers, agents, or employees of a law enforcement agency or a State agency.
- 11) Any firearm or firearm accessory that is designed to launch explosive projectiles.
- 12) “Flashbang” grenades and explosive breaching tools, “tear gas,” and “pepper balls,” excluding standard, service-issued handheld pepper spray.
- 13) Taser Shockwave, microwave weapons, water cannons, and the Long-Range Acoustic Device (LRAD).
- 14) The following projectile launch platforms and their associated munitions: 40 mm projectile launchers, “bean bag,” rubber bullet, and specialty impact munition (SIM) weapons.
- 15) Any other equipment as determined by a governing body or a State agency to require additional oversight.

# Considerations for Use of Equipment

- No single piece of equipment is applicable to all situations
- Consistent training and practice ensures proper deployment of equipment
- MVPD consistently learns from incidents regionally and nationally
  - e.g. Gilroy Garden Festival shooting, VTA Railyard shooting, school active shooter incidents
- All equipment in MVPD inventory is highly specialized for specific uses and stored at the department, except patrol rifles (which are locked in each patrol car)
- Equipment requires notification to MVPD leadership and specific authorization by incident commander to deploy
- Most equipment can only be deployed by police personnel with specific, regulated, and certified training

# MVPD Equipment Inventory

Equipment Category	Item(s)	Purpose
1	Drones, Robot	Remotely gain visualization of a scene or incident
5	Command and Control Vehicle	Mobile command post at critical incidents, disasters, or special events
7	Explosive Breaching Equipment	Create entryway into a building during emergency hostage rescue situations
8, 9, 10	Patrol Rifles, Sniper Rifles, and Associated Ammunition	Address threats with more precision at greater distance
12, 14	Less Lethal Munitions	Less lethal use of force options and diversionary tools



- **With City Council approval of Military Equipment Policy 709:**
  - MVPD will continue to have access to each of the resources currently available and the corresponding policies and procedures would remain in effect
  - Staff will be required to implement a tracking system for equipment use in preparation for the AB 481 Annual Report
  
- **Without City Council approval of Military Equipment Policy 709:**
  - MVPD will cease the use of equipment designated by AB 481 if a policy is not adopted within 180 days of submission of the policy to City Council
  - MVPD will be required to redesign policies, procedures and operations for critical incident response; this includes the ability to provide mutual aid
  - MVPD's ability to effectively respond to critical incidents would be negatively impacted



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Questions, comments and  
concerns