

Public Hearing for
Assembly Bill 481:

Annual Military Equipment
Use Report FY24

Military Equipment
Funding, Acquisition, and
Use Policy FY25

Agenda

- Assembly Bill 481 Background
- Review Equipment Use for FY24
- Demographics
- Fiscal Impacts
- Questions & Concerns
- Renewal of Ordinance 2859 and Department Policy 709



AB 481

- In 2021, the California Legislature passed Assembly Bill 481 (AB 481), adding new statutes to the Government Code to address the funding, acquisition and use of military equipment.
- Increases transparency, accountability, oversight for acquisition and use of equipment
- Provide safeguards to protect public's welfare, safety, civil rights and liberties
- Requires an annual report to summarize
 - equipment usage and updates
 - document internal audits
 - summarize community feedback
- Creates public forum for input and engagement



Background of Assembly Bill 481 and Adoption of Local Ordinance 2818

- In 2021, the California Legislature passed Assembly Bill 481 (AB481), adding new statutes to the Government Code to address the funding, acquisition and use of military equipment.
- On [June 20, 2022](#), City Council adopted Ordinance No. 2818 N.C.S. approving the Department's Military Equipment Funding, Acquisition, and Use Policy which included Policy Section 709, in compliance with AB481.
- On [August 7, 2023](#), City Council renewed Ordinance No. 2818 N.C.S., adopted Department Policy 613, Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) and Unmanned Ground Vehicle (UGV) Operations, and authorized the purchase of UAS's and a UGV.



Community Engagement Activities

• Since the adoption of AB 481, the Petaluma Police Department has been committed to displaying, hosting community meetings, and providing information regarding its use of specialized equipment.

- May 4, 2023 – Community Exhibition
- July 10, 2023 – Community Meeting at City Council
- August 2, 2023 – Exhibition at Petaluma Night Out
- July 2, 2024 – Community Meeting and Military Equipment Display at City Hall
- July 24, 2024 – Introduction to Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC)



Transparency and Accountability

The Police Department has established a webpage located at: cityofpetaluma.org/police-department-specialized-equipment/

The page discusses AB 481 and the qualifying equipment in possession of the department.

The Department has also established the email address PetalumaPoliceEquipment@cityofpetaluma.org to receive comments, concerns, and complaints from community members regarding the department's use of military equipment.

In addition to review and oversight by City Council, the Office of the Independent Police Auditor is also monitoring compliance with AB481 and has provided separate reporting to the City Council and community during their annual reporting requirements.



Equipment Categories per AB 481

Category 1- Unmanned, remotely piloted, powered aerial or ground vehicles

Category 2- Mine-resistant ambush-protected vehicles (MRAP) or armored personnel carriers*

Category 3- High mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicles (HMMWV), two-and-one-half-ton trucks, five-ton trucks, or wheeled vehicles that have a breaching or entry apparatus attached

Category 4- Tracked armored vehicles that provide ballistic protection to their occupants

Category 5- Command and control vehicles that are either built or modified to facilitate the operational control and direction of public safety units*

Category 6- Weaponized aircraft, vessels, or vehicles of any kind

Category 7- Battering rams, slugs, and breaching apparatuses that are explosive in nature*

Category 8- Firearms of .50 caliber or greater

Category 9- Ammunition of .50 caliber or greater

Category 10- Specialized firearms and ammunition of less than .50 caliber*

Category 11- Any firearm or firearm accessory that is designed to launch explosive projectiles

Category 12- Noise-flash diversionary devices and explosive breaching tools, munitions containing tear gas or OC, excluding standard, service-issued handheld pepper spray*

Category 13- TASER® Shockwave, microwave weapons, water cannons, and long-range acoustic devices

Category 14- Kinetic energy weapons and munitions*

Category 15- Any other equipment as determined by a governing body or a state agency to require additional oversight

**Denotes PPD Equipment in inventory*

Crisis Response Team

CRISIS RESPONSE TEAM

The Crisis Response Team (CRT) is comprised of three specialized teams:

- Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT)
- Crisis Negotiations Team (CNT)
- Tactical Dispatch Team (TDT)



The team has been established to provide specialized support in the handling of critical field operations where intense negotiations and special tactical deployment methods beyond the capacity of field officers appear to be necessary. The primary focus of the Crisis Response Team is to provide tactical solutions that increase the likelihood of de-escalation and the safe resolution of high-risk incidents.



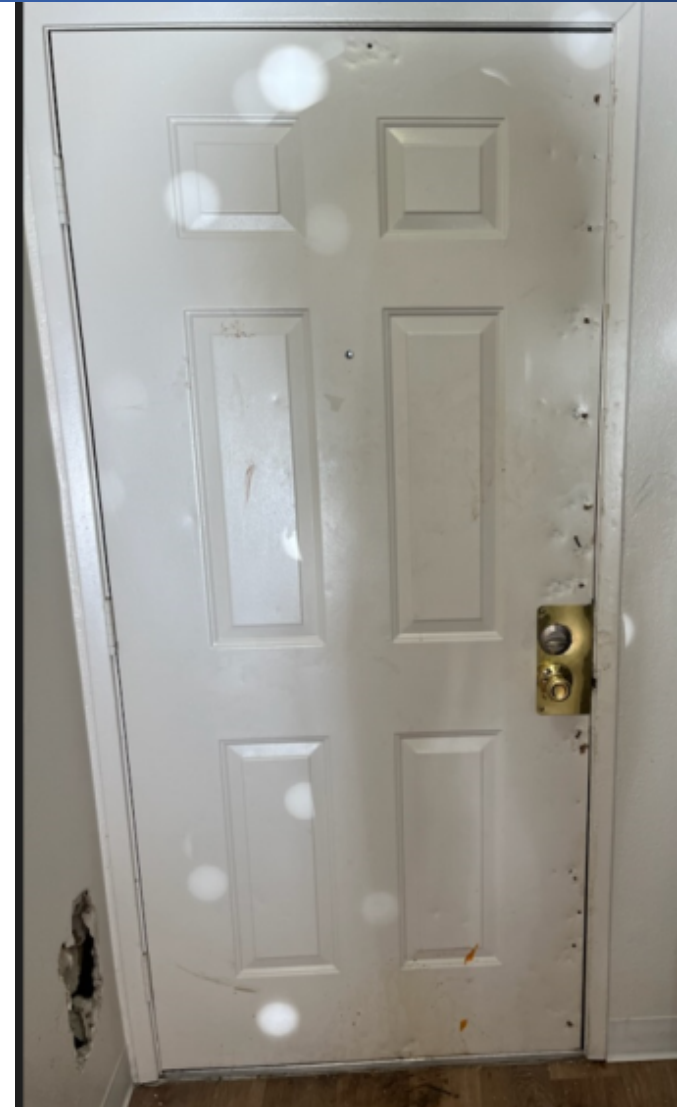
July 2023 – June 2024 Operational Use of Military Equipment



From July of 2023 to June of 2024, there were four significant events that resulted in the use of military equipment.

July 2023 – June 2024 Operational Use of Military Equipment

- October 2023 – Patrol officers responded to a reported domestic violence incident in which the suspect barricaded the door and was holding his girlfriend captive. During previous incidents, the suspect had assaulted his girlfriend, threatened to shoot officers, and resisted arresting officers. The suspect was also prohibited from contacting the victim or being at the residence due to a restraining order. Due to the complexity and seriousness of the call the Crisis Response Team was activated. During the six-hour standoff a flash bang was deployed outside the residence, the suspect was shot with a 40mm foam baton round, the victim was removed from the apartment by SWAT officers, and CS gas was introduced into his residence to force the suspect out.
 - *Resulted in the use of our MRAP, Mobile Command Vehicle, a noise flash diversionary device (flash bang), 40 mm foam baton round, and three 40 mm CS rounds.*



July 2023 – June 2024 Operational Use of Military Equipment

- March 2024 – The Santa Rosa Police Department (SRPD) requested our assistance at the Best Western motel at the corner of East Washington Street and South McDowell Blvd. SRPD attempted to arrest a suspect who was wanted for multiple serious violent felonies. The suspect had previously assaulted his spouse, fled from SRPD officers in a high-speed pursuit, attempted to light the victim's house on fire, and was found to be in possess numerous firearms while being a prohibited person. SRPD attempted to contact the suspect at the motel who shot a firearm multiple times from inside the motel room. Due to the nature and seriousness of the incident SRPD requested the use of our MRAP to provide additional ballistic protection for officers and the surrounding community.
- *Resulted in the use of our MRAP and Mobile Command Vehicle.*



July 2023 – June 2024 Operational Use of Military Equipment

- In addition to the use in the previous summaries there were an additional 19 times where officers displayed a categorized weapon to provide a less than lethal force option to gain voluntary compliance. During these nineteen (19) “shows of force,” the weapons were not discharged. These included:
 - Eight (8) times in which a 40mm launcher loaded with a 40mm foam baton round was **displayed only**.
 - Eleven (11) times in which a less lethal shotgun loaded with a 12-gauge drag stabilized beanbag round was **displayed only**.



July 2023 – June 2024 Operational Use of Military Equipment

- There were no policy violations found with the deployment or use of military equipment. Additionally, compliance with the military equipment use policy will be reviewed by the Office of the Independent Police Auditor and reported to City Council as part of their annual reporting requirements.
- There were no complaints related to the use of military equipment as investigated by the Petaluma Police Department's Professional Standards Division during this reporting period.

**Category 14 –
Demographics for Less Lethal – Beanbag Shotgun and Related Munitions**

	Show of Force				Use of Force		
	Total	Percent	Male	Female	Percent	Male	Female
White	3	27.27%	3	0	0%	0	0
Hispanic	4	36.36%	4	0	0%	0	0
Black	2	18.18%	2	0	0%	0	0
Asian	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0
Other	2	18.18%	2	0	0%	0	0
Total	11	100%	11	0	100%	0	0

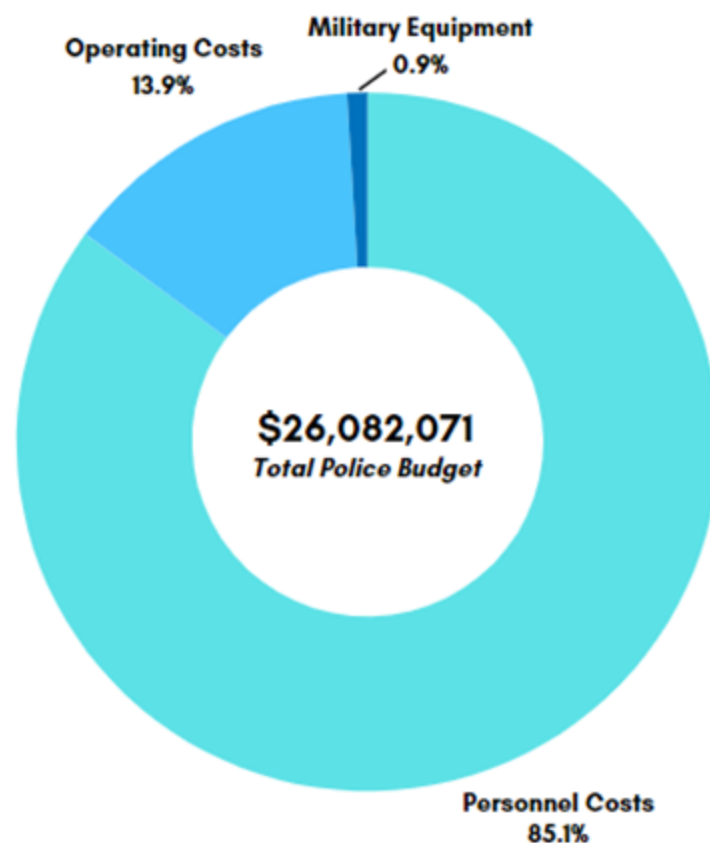
**Category 14 –
Demographics for Less Lethal 40mm Projective Launchers and Impact Munitions**

	Show of Force				Use of Force		
	Total	Percent	Male	Female	Percent	Male	Female
White	3	37.5%	3	0	50%	1	0
Hispanic	2	25%	2	0	0%	0	0
Black	2	25%	2	0	0%	0	0
Asian	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0
Other	1	12.5%	1	0	50%	1	0
Total	8	100%	8	0	100%	2	0

Demographics

- Identified in each section of the report.
- Often overlapping, as incidents often involves multiple pieces of equipment.
- Differentiates between a “use of force” and a “show of force,” were appropriate.

Petaluma Police Department Budget



Category	FY 23/24 Adopted Budget Approximate	Percentage of Annual Budget Approximate
Total Personnel Related Costs	\$22,365,631	84%
Supplies, Services, Equipment (Non-Personnel Related)	\$3,662,105	13.9%
Military Equipment Costs (Subset of Non-Personnel Costs)	\$247,659	0.9%
TOTAL BUDGET	\$26,082,071	100%



Renewal of Ordinance No. 2859 N.C.S

- The Department is asking City Council to make a finding that the military equipment listed in the policy is necessary because there is no cost-effective reasonable alternative that can achieve the same objective of community and officer safety and that the proposed military equipment use policy will safeguard the public's welfare, safety, civil rights, and civil liberties.
- The Department is seeking City Council review and approval for the continued use of all authorized military equipment identified in the previously presented Military Equipment Funding, Acquisition, and Use policy.

Questions or
Comments

