



AB 481 Annual Report 2024

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Los Altos Police Department

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Military Equipment Use AB 481 Compliance Requirements:

- Approval of the Military Use Policy (Completed 2022, 2023, 2024; Policy 709)
- Publishing the Policy (Completed 2022, 2023, 2024)
- Annual Report (see below)

Annual Report Description:

Assembly Bill 481 requires the police department report annually on the inventory, procurement, use and misuse of covered military equipment items. The annual report also includes a description of new military equipment the police department seeks City Council approval for acquisition and funding.

Per AB 481, the annual report must include the following:

- (1) A summary of how the military equipment was used and the purpose of its use.
- (2) A summary of any complaints or concerns received concerning the military equipment.
- (3) The results of any internal audits, any information about violations of the military equipment use policy, and any actions taken in response.
- (4) The total annual cost for each type of military equipment, including acquisition, personnel, training, transportation, maintenance, storage, upgrade, and other ongoing costs, and from what source funds will be provided for the military equipment in the calendar year following submission of the annual military equipment report.
- (5) The quantity possessed for each type of military equipment.
- (6) If the law enforcement agency intends to acquire additional military equipment in the next year, the quantity sought for each type of military equipment.

LAMC 7.30.010. Military equipment policy (Last reviewed on 2/27/24)

As required by AB 481, the City Council reviewed this section as an ordinance to approve a military equipment use policy. The City Council's approval shall remain effective for a period of one year, which approval may be revoked, extended, renewed, modified or amended by resolution of the City Council. Within a year of the initial approval, and at least annually thereafter, the City Council will review this section and related resolutions. The City Council may, by resolution, make amendments, modifications or revisions to the military equipment use policy adopted by the Los Altos Police Department. The ordinance must be reviewed and renewed annually.

A. The City Council has made the following determinations:

1. The military equipment inventoried and presented to the City Council is necessary because there is no reasonable alternative that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety.
2. The proposed military equipment use policy (“Policy”) will safeguard the public’s welfare, safety, civil rights and civil liberties (said Policy is attached hereto as Exhibit “A” and incorporated by this reference).
3. The equipment is reasonably cost-effective compared to available alternatives that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety (if any).
4. Prior military equipment use complied with the applicable equipment use policy (which included equipment now defined as military equipment) that was in effect at the time, or if prior uses did not comply with the accompanying military equipment use policy, corrective action has been taken to remedy nonconforming uses and ensure future compliance.

Equipment Usage for 2024:

None of the equipment in the attached military equipment inventory was utilized in 2024, except in training situations including range and SWAT.

Summary of Complaints for 2024:

The Department did not receive any complaints concerning military equipment in 2024.

Violations of Policy 709:

An internal review revealed no violations of Policy 709, as none of the equipment was utilized in 2024 except in training situations.

Total Annual Cost for Military Equipment:

The estimated annual cost for the maintenance of the military equipment in the current inventory is \$4,800. This includes the cost of replacement parts, cleaning supplies, and the staff time to conduct inspections on the equipment.

Replacement Military Equipment Inventory List:

- None

New Proposed Items for the Military Equipment Inventory List:

- **UAS (Unmanned Aircraft System):** Change the request from two (2) Council-approved Aardvark Loki Mk2 drones to two (2) DJI Avata 2 drones. These drones, including lights and additional controllers, would cost approximately \$2000 each for a total cost of \$4,000. The specifications for these drones are attached to this annual report for further information. These drones would be utilized for interior operations. The (2) Aardvark Loki Mk2 drones approved by Council in 2024 were never purchased.
- **Training UAS (Unmanned Aircraft System):** Purchase of a DJI Mini Pro (DJI RC 2) as a training drone. This drone uses the same software as our larger exterior drones and the controller functions are the same. However, its smaller size allows for training indoors as well as outdoors. It would only be utilized for training purposes for our UAS pilots. The cost of the DJI Mini 4 Pro is approximately \$1300. The specifications for this training drone are attached to this annual report for further information.
- **Increase the number of Daniel Defense Rifles** from current inventory of 5 to 36 while phasing out our current Colt AR rifles. This would allow for a rifle to be issued to each officer and would become our standard issue rifle. The benefit would be that each rifle would be individually “sighted in” for each officer. Every police officer would go through a process of adjusting their rifle sight on the range to ensure they are accurately shooting at the intended target. The individualized process of sighting in a rifle is due to slight variations in grip, stance, and eyesight. Precise shot placement is crucial in high-stress situations where a single shot may need to incapacitate a threat. Currently, we do not have enough rifles for individual issuance, so the patrol rifles are sighted in based to generic standards. The Daniel Defense rifles would replace the Colt AR rifles, which are from 2003 and are nearing their end of life. The replacement would happen incrementally (6-7 per year over a 5-year period) as the Colt AR Rifles were cycled out of service.

Additional Requests for AB 481 Changes:

- **Removal of CTS Flash-bang Training Kit (Item 8) from the Inventory:** The training flash-bangs are built and weigh the same as its equivalent live Flash-bang but have no flash charge. They are used only in training situations and do not impact the public’s welfare, safety, civil rights and civil liberties as defined by AB 481.

- **Removal of SIMS equipment (Item 9) from the Inventory:** Simunition equipment, aka SIMS, are comprised of training cartridges, weapon conversion kits, and personal protective equipment that provide realistic training systems for police officers. This equipment is utilized in scenario-based training, led by Simunition Instructors. The equipment, similar to paint ball, is only used in training situations and does not impact the public's welfare, safety, civil rights and civil liberties as defined by AB 481.

- **Additional uses for UAS (Drones) as prescribed in Policy 611** (*The complete inventory description of the UAS (Drones) is attached to the annual report for further review*)
 - Locating suspect(s) who have fled from lawful detention and/or are attempting to conceal themselves to avoid arrest.
 - Exhibitions for the public at community events