

Assembly Bill (AB) 481: Military Equipment Funding, Acquisition and Use

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Why AB 481

On September 30, 2021 – Gov. Newsom signed eight police reform bills, including AB 481

AB 481 does the following:

- Increases transparency, accountability, oversight for acquisition and use of equipment
- Provides safeguards to protect public's welfare, safety, civil rights and liberties
- Creates public forum for input and engagement



AB 481 Requirements

- Governing Body approval of a Policy and Ordinance for continued use of items purchased prior to January 1, 2022
- It also requires an annual report; LAPD's first annual report is planned for January 2023
- Annual Report to include:
 - How equipment is being used
 - Maintenance and use costs
 - Internal audits
 - Community feedback on use
- AB 481 requires approval for the acquisition of funds associated with purchase of new equipment
- Establish a concern or complaint process. LAPD has established processes for the public to submit commendations, questions, concerns and complaints online, over the phone, or in person to LAPD staff or the Independent Intake Official



Community Engagement Activities

- April 28, 2022 – Meeting notice on Los Altos Police Department website, City Manager Weekly Update and social media
 - Full text of AB 481
 - AB 481 defined list of military equipment currently in Los Altos Police Department possession
 - Los Altos Police Department summary of AB 481
 - Draft Lexipol Policy 709
- May 12, 2022 – Community Meeting to Discuss AB 481 and Draft Policy 709
- May-September—Reviewed public comments from Council meetings and met with community members to get additional feedback/input
- September 20, 2022--Present to City Council to gain approval and recommendations



Los Altos PD's Equipment Inventory

Equipment Category	Item(s)	Funding Source for Acquisition
7	Breaching Equipment (Breaching Shotgun)	Grant, Asset Forfeiture or General Fund
10	Specialized firearms and ammunition of less than .50 caliber (Rifles, ammunition)	Grant, Asset Forfeiture or General Fund
11	Any firearm or firearm accessory that is designed to launch explosive projectiles (Simunition firearms, ammunition)	Grant, Asset Forfeiture or General Fund
12	Flashbang grenades and explosive breaching tools (Training flashbang devices, munitions pole)	Grant, Asset Forfeiture or General Fund
14	Kinetic energy weapons and munitions (40mm less lethal platform, less lethal shotgun, less lethal rounds)	Grant, Asset Forfeiture or General Fund

Recommendation

- Introduce an Ordinance Approving a Military Equipment Funding, Acquisition and Use Policy Pursuant to Assembly Bill 481

