

AB 481: Military Equipment Funding, Acquisition and Use

Facilitated by
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Why AB 481?

September, 2021

 Governor Gavin Newsom passed several police reform bills, including AB 481

Increase transparency, accountability, oversight for acquisition and use of equipment

Requires an annual report to summarize

- Equipment usage and updates
- Document internal concerns
- Summarize community feedback

Create public forum for input and engagement

AB 481 Requires Initial Approval and Annual Reporting and approval

AB 481 requires approval for continued use of items purchased prior to January 1, 2022

It also requires an annual report which will include:

- How equipment is being used
- Maintenance and use costs
- Internal concerns
- Community feedback on use

Why do we need this equipment?

Goal

 Safe, peaceful resolution for the involved parties, the public and officers

Concerns

• Actions, capabilities and intentions

Factors that influence sound decisions

• Time, distance and cover

CRITICAL INCIDENTS IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY

DATE	INCIDENT	BRIEF SUMMARY	
July 2019	Gilroy Garlic Festival	Gunman killed 3 people and wounded 17	
May-June, 2020	County-wide protests in response to George Floyd murder	Riots, fires and looting ensued, resulting in a community-wide curfew. Officers were injured after being hit with objects thrown at them during protests	
May 2021	VTA Railyard Shooting	9 people killed	
November- December, 2021	Retailer break-ins	Organized groups of 15-30 people breaching retail stores to steal high end merchandise	

Equipment Categories per AB 481

CATEGORY 1: Unmanned, remotely piloted, powered aerial or ground vehicles

CATEGORY 2: Mine-resistant ambush-protected vehicles or armed 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 that .50 caliber

CATEGORY 11: Any firearm or firearm accessor 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

LGMSPD'S EQUIPMENT INVENTORY

EQUIPMENT CATEGORY	ITEM(S)	FUNDING SOURCE FOR ACQUISITION	PRIOR COUNCIL APPROVAL	IN USE BY LGMSPD SINCE
1	Robot	Operating budget	Yes	2010
1	Unmanned Aircraft/Drone	Grant	Yes	2021
10	Rifles, ammunition	Operating Budget	Yes	1985
12	Noise flash diversionary device, tear gas	Operating Budget	Yes	2015
14	40 mm less lethal platform	Operating Budget	Yes	2016

How Equipment Can Be Funded



LGMSPD Operating Budget

Local, State and Federal Grants

LGMSPD has NOT sought out or received the transfer of Department of Defense equipment that qualifies under AB 481 through the 1208 or 1033 Programs

How does this affect our community?

With Town Council renewal of AB 481 ordinance:

 LGMSPD will continue to have access to each of the resources currently available. In addition, the corresponding policies and procedures would remain in effect; this includes our ability to provide and receive mutual aid

Without Town Council renewal of AB 481 ordinance:

- LGMSPD would cease the use of equipment designated by AB 481 in May, 2023
- LGMSPD would be required to redesign our policies, procedures and operations for critical incident response; this includes our ability to provide and receive mutual aid
- Public safety would be negatively impacted

Community Engagement Activities

April 12th, 2023

- Meeting notice on LGMSPD website and social media
 ©Full text of AB 481
 - AB 481 defined list of military equipment currently in LGMSPD's inventory
 - ©Lexipol Policy 704

April 26th , 2023

Community meeting

May 16th, 2023

- Town Council to renew an ordinance approving a military equipment funding, acquisition, and use policy pursuant to Assembly Bill 481.
- The AB 481 Staff Report will be made available for public notice.



Thank you for partnering with us!

Questions?