

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** November 7, 2024  
**TO:** Melissa R. Marsh, City Manager  
**FROM:** Sean P. Ballantine, Director of Public Services  
**SUBJECT:** Purchase of 4 Police Patrol Vehicles

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The approved FY 2025 Budget includes the scheduled replacement of four standard police patrol vehicles. Although the Dodge Durango Pursuit has proven to be a generally reliable vehicle, there are known drivetrain issues, as well as space and comfort considerations for our officers, who are required to wear more and more equipment. While our Motorpool supervisor has successfully mitigated the drivetrain concerns, resulting in a strong and viable fleet, it does not address the space issues, or long-term longevity concerns. These considerations prompted us to look into alternatives, and the general finding was that the majority of police departments in the area are switching to Chevrolet Tahoes.

I would note that this is not uncommon for police fleets, as the nature of patrol vehicles are ever evolving, moving from different body styles and vendors as new innovations come to the market.

Staff therefore recommends that Council approve the purchase of four Chevrolet Tahoe 4-wheel drive police package, from Berger Chevrolet, of Grand Rapids, through the MiDeal vehicle purchasing program, for the total amount of \$211,968. Funding is budgeted and available with \$158,976 allocated in account 101-301-985-0000, and \$52,992 allocated in account 265-301-985-0039

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**Department of Public Services**  
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