

City of Meridian FY2024 Budget Amendment Form

Personnel Costs

Full Time Equivalent (FTE):

Fund#	Dept.#	G/L#	Proj.#	G/L# Description	Total
01	2110	41200	0	Wages	
01	2110	41206	0	PT/Seasonal Wages	
01	2110	41210	0	Overtime	
01	2110	41304	0	Uniform Allowance	
01	2110	42021	0	FICA	\$ -
01	2110	42022	0	PERSI	\$ -
01	2110	42024	0	Worker's Comp	\$ -
01	2110	42025	0	Employee Insurance	\$ -

Total Personnel Costs \$ -

Operating Expenditures

Fund#	Dept.#	G/L#	Proj.#	G/L# Description	One-Time	On-Going	Total
01	2110	54000	0	Matrice Drone	\$ 35,000		\$ 35,000
01	2110		0				\$ -
01	2110		0				\$ -
01	2110		0				\$ -
01	2110		0				\$ -
01	2110		0				\$ -
01	2110		0				\$ -
01	2110		0				\$ -
01	2110		0				\$ -
01	2110		0				\$ -
01	2110		0				\$ -
01	2110		0				\$ -
01	2110		0				\$ -
01	2110		0				\$ -

Total Operating Expenditures \$ 35,000 \$ - \$ 35,000

Capital Outlay

Fund#	Dept.#	G/L#	Proj.#	G/L# Description	Total
01	2110		0		
01	2110		0		
01	2110		0		
01	2110		0		
01	2110		0		
01	2110		0		

Total Capital Outlay \$ -

Revenue/Donations

Fund#	Dept.#	G/L#	Proj.#	G/L# Description	Total
01	2110		0		
01	2110		0		
01	2110		0		

Total Revenue/Donations \$ -



Please only complete the fields highlighted in Orange.

Amendment Details

Title: Police Drone

Department Name: Police

Presenting Department Name: Lt. Ludwig & Lt. Harper

Department #: 2110

Primary Funding Source: 1

CIP#:

Project #:

Is this for an Emergency? ☐ Yes ☒ No

New Level of Service? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Clerks Office Stamp

Date of Council Approval _____

Acknowledgement

Date

Department Director

REVIEWED

By Todd Lavoie at 2:49 pm, Jan 10, 2024

Chief Financial Officer

Approved Liz Strader via email 1.10.24

Council Liaison

1-10-23

Mayor

Total Amendment Request \$ 35,000

jfields 1.10.24

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Total Amendment Cost - Lifetime

	Prior Year(s) Funding	Fiscal Year 2024	Fiscal Year 2025	Fiscal Year 2026	Fiscal Year 2027	Fiscal Year 2028	Department Name: <u>Police</u>
							Title: <u>Police Drone</u>
Personnel		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	Instructions for Submitting Budget Amendments: ➤ Department will send Amendment with Directors signature to Finance (Budget Manager) for review ➤ Finance will send Amendment to Council Liaison for signature ➤ Council Liaison will send signed Amendment to Mayor ➤ Mayor will send signed Amendment to Finance (Budget Manager)
Operating		\$ 35,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Capital		\$ -					
Total	\$ -	\$ 35,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Total Estimated Project Cost:						\$ 35,000	

Evaluation Questions

Please answer all Evaluation Questions using the financial data referenced above.

1. Describe what is being requested?

This recent incident revealed that we do not have the adequate number of drones on hand to ensure consistent monitoring of a suspect and need to address this void immediately, as it gives suspects the opportunity to fortify or conceal their position, posing a potential threat to law enforcement, and/or continue their flight and evade law enforcement, which increases the potential risk to our community. With this officer safety gap in mind, the Meridian Police Department is requesting a budget amendment to purchase an additional large frame drone. This drone provides a more efficient battery system, increased battery life, and the ability to fly in inclement weather. This would give the police department a 3rd large frame option in inclement weather and

2. Why was this budget request not submitted during the current fiscal year budget cycle?

Following a double homicide and a vehicle and foot pursuit of a homicide suspect on December 3rd, 2023, the Meridian Police Department identified an officer safety gap involving our current Unmanned Aircraft System (Drone) field operations.

3. What is the explanation for not submitting this budget request during the next fiscal year budget cycle?

The estimated **one-time** cost of adding this equipment with these capabilities and the necessary accessories would be no more than \$35,000.00. The police department strongly feels that waiting an additional year (during the next budget process) is simply too long given the risk at hand and relying on other agencies to fill this gap is not a solution. We respectfully request you

4. Describe the proposed method of funding? If funding is split between Funds (i.e. General, Enterprise, Grant), please include the percentage split. List the amounts and sources of anticipated additional revenue that will result from approval of this request.

General fund

5. Does this request align with the Department/City's strategic plan? If not, please explain how this request was not included in the Department/City strategic plan?

Yes- Officer & Public Safety

6. Does this request require resources to be provided by other departments? If yes, please describe the necessary resources to be provided by other departments.

No

7. Does this Amendment include any needed Equipment or Software that will utilize the City's network? (Yes or No)

No

8. Is the amendment going to result in the disposal of an asset? (Yes or No)

No

9. Any additional comments?

See attached document

Total Amendment Request \$ 35,000

Every effort should be made to avoid reopening the budget for an amendment. Departments will need to provide back up and appear before the City Council to justify budget amendments. Budget amendments are intended for emergency or mandatory changes to the original balanced budget. Changes to the original balanced budget may cause a funding shortfall.

Request to Purchase New Drone

Following a double homicide and a vehicle and foot pursuit of a homicide suspect on December 3rd, 2023, the Meridian Police Department identified an officer safety gap involving our current Unmanned Aircraft System (Drone) field operations.

We currently utilize two (2) large frame drones and two (2) small frame drones. These are all designed for exterior deployments, but we become limited as there are strict guidelines for flight in inclement weather such as cold, fog, rain, snow, and high winds. During a yard to yard search, as this operational deployment was, we utilized the drones to conduct stationary overwatch for officers to ensure they are not ambushed.

We quickly exhausted the equipment we currently have on hand, especially when you take in to account equipment downed for maintenance, limitations because of weather, and down time for battery changes. This results in officers searching locations without the ability to first clear an area of potential threats and/or identify possible suspect locations using thermal imaging. Moving in to an unknown location, while searching for dangerous armed suspect puts our officer's safety at risk. Unfortunately, incidents of this nature regularly result in the application of force, specifically deadly force, as officers are ambushed from fortified or concealed positions causing serious injuries and/or death to the involved officers and suspects. While we understand there is inherent risk in law enforcement operations utilizing technology to mitigate that risk as much as possible for officers, the public, and suspects is the proper way to handle these types of situations.

This recent incident revealed that we do not have the adequate number of drones on hand to ensure consistent monitoring of a suspect and need to address this void immediately, as it gives suspects the opportunity to fortify or conceal their position, posing a potential threat to law enforcement, and/or continue their flight and evade law enforcement, which increases the potential risk to our community. With this officer safety gap in mind, the Meridian Police Department is requesting a budget amendment to purchase an additional large frame drone. This drone provides a more efficient battery system, increased battery life, and the ability to fly in inclement weather. This would give the police department a 3rd large frame option in inclement weather and would grant us the ability to provide constant overwatch for officers, while utilizing other platforms to conduct an area search and/or provide coverage of officers assigned to a search team.

The estimated **one-time** cost of adding this equipment with these capabilities and the necessary accessories would be no more than \$35,000.00. The police department strongly feels that waiting an additional year (during the next budget process) is simply too long given the risk at hand and relying on other agencies to fill this gap is not a solution. We respectfully request you approve this budget amendment.

Thank you