

# **Norman Police Department Funding Request**

Norman City Council Study Session  
November 15, 2022 (FYE 23)

# Presentation Overview

- Request Overview
- Justification of requests
- Review of Requests (SWAT, HDU, UASU, Bike)
- Seizure Funds
- Summary
- Q&A

\*To most efficiently respect your time and reduce duplication of information please hold non-clarifying questions until the conclusion.

# Introduction

- NPD has many unmet equipment needs which will allow us to complete our mission, (To maintain and enhance the quality of life in the city of Norman by protecting life, liberty, property and keeping the peace), and keep our community and our officers safe.
- By law, NPD can obtain these only through allocation of funding from our city council.
- While this council may not be aware of these needs, these requests are not new. Many of these items were first broached several years ago and remain unfilled.
- Proposals for funding will be brought forward next week and will be structured based on input from this evening's meeting.

# NPD Needs and History

- Many of the requested items have been in NPD inventory for many years.
- The technology and tools have become outdated, non-serviceable, and in some cases no longer function in an operational way.
- Officers are now using personal funds to provide equipment that the city has failed to provide (i.e., night vision goggles, tech tools, etc.,...). If continued, this will place officers and our community at risk.
- These requested tools and equipment are compliant with industry standards across the nation and are not new to NPD.
- These tools in many ways help provide officers the ability to slow incidents down, creating time for less lethal options, thus creating a safer environment for all involved persons.
- Tools themselves do not cause harm. Poor leadership, poor training, poor accountability, lack of appropriate policy of the use of the equipment create potential concerns.

# Our Community's Reality

- We safely complete 70,000 – 100,000 calls for service each year.
- Dynamic and violent encounters are becoming more prevalent across the country. Our community is not exempt from these acts of violence. We must be prepared to provide the level of protection that our community deserves.
- In the last two years, we have had four incidents resulting in more than a dozen officers being shot at.

# NPD SWAT

- Founded 1974. Deployed to the community's most violent situations including hostage, barricaded persons, high-risk situations, and incidents where the capabilities exceed those of traditional patrol response.
- SWAT averages 5-6 activations each year. The priority is for a peaceful resolution. In its 48-year history, SWAT has never used lethal force.
- Additionally, we support large venue events (Norman Music Festival, OU events, etc.)
- Team training, policies and equipment standards are set by National Tactical Officers Association (NTOA) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).
- Failure to achieve standards reduces our ability to protect our community when needed and increases risk to team members. The requested equipment brings us closer to meeting the national standards necessary for protecting our community.

# **SWAT NEGOTIATIONS EQUIPMENT**

## **Replacement and upgrade of current equipment**

Approximate Cost: \$21,000

- Negotiators are the key to peaceful resolutions.
- Creates the ability to provide a reliable means of communication with barricaded persons or hostage takers.
- Current systems are very outdated and/or not serviceable.

# SIMUNITION TRAINING KITS

## Upgrade of current equipment

Approximate Cost: \$12,500

- Simunition kits for issued weapons systems
- Converts weapons to only shoot Simunitions (soap rounds)
- Allows for training using issued systems in high-stress environments
- Currently they are unable to train with their issued weapon systems



# **BALLISTIC SHIELD & BLANKET(S)**

## **Replacement of expired current equipment**

Approximate Cost: \$20,000

- Current items are several years past expiration and are unreliable
- The shield and blanket provide ballistic protection
- Will assist in safeguarding life and property during high-risk situations.
- Will assist in compliance with OSHA/PEOSH standards for employee protective equipment.

# RESPIRATORS & CANISTERS

## Replacement of expired current equipment

Approximate Cost: \$13,000

- Provides protection from hazardous environments
- SWAT team may, in specific incidents, introduce chemical agents to assist in creating peaceful resolutions to high-risk incidents
- Current equipment is expired and unreliable
- Standard NPD issued respirators cannot be used in long-term tactical environment
- Necessary to achieve OSHA/PEOSH compliance

# DOOR BREACHING EQUIPMENT

## Replacement and upgrade of current equipment

Approximate Cost: \$22,000

- Equipment necessary for breaching doors when making emergency entry into a location.
- Entering buildings in non-tactical, slower ways increases risk and reduces rescue abilities.
- Increase of operational readiness and give additional officers the ability to quickly enter a structure to address public safety issues and protect citizens.

# LARGE VENUE SECURITY EQUIPMENT

## Replacement and upgrade of current equipment

Approximate Cost: \$7,000

- Binoculars with high-definition lens clarity for accurate visual assessments.
- Tripods for stable working platform
- Current items limit ability to properly identify and assess incidents
- Allows for protection of large venue environments and outdoor events

# NIGHT VISION EQUIPMENT

## Replacement and upgrade of current equipment

Approximate Cost: \$52,000

- Provides ability to accurately assess and respond to situations in low light environments.
- Currently not enough in inventory to outfit entire team.
- Some are personally owned items.
- Inability to accurately see in low light environment significantly limits abilities to safely manage incidents.

# AIMING LASER SYSTEMS

## Replacement and upgrade of current equipment

Approximate Cost: \$20,000

- Allows for full field of view vision rather than limited standard optics
- Significant increase in low light capabilities
- Currently not enough in inventory to outfit entire team.
- Some are personally owned items.

# ARMORED RESCUE VEHICLE AND TRAINING (PG 1)

**Not currently owned by NPD**

Approximate Cost: \$353,000

- Used during high-risk incidents involving armed subjects
- Critical tool to rescue residents from danger
- Critical tool to keep officers safe and de-escalate situations for peaceful resolution

# ARMORED RESCUE VEHICLE AND TRAINING (PG 2)

- Using outside resources limits accountability and increases response times.
- May be required to work in pairs.
- Used in Norman twice in last two years providing life saving capabilities.
- Can be used during weather related incidents for rescue and access.
- This defensive tool has been proven to save lives around the nation and in our city
- Currently available in Cleveland County: CCSO (Lenco), Moore PD (MRAP)
- OK County: OCPDx2, Edmond, OHP, OCSO
- OHP only has two in the state



# Hazardous Devices Unit (HDU)

- Founded 1972. Deployed to high risk, violent incidents within the community. A primary response unit for chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive threats. Deployed to all large events. Average 15-20 activations each year for devices.
- Additionally, we support large venue events (Norman Music Festival, OU events, etc.)
- Team training, policies, equipment standards set by the Federal Bureau of Investigation with routine inspection. Both the FBI and FEMA require that Public Safety Bomb Squad (PSBS) have a robot, bomb suits for technicians, X-ray machines, and tools to enable them to safely investigate and disrupt any possible explosive threat.
- Failure to meet standards will result in team disbandment. Failing to have a HDU within our agency significantly reduces capabilities and increases response times when needed. The included requests allows us to continue meeting these standards.

# PROTECTIVE VESTS & HELMETS

## Replacement and upgrade of current equipment

Approximate Cost: \$15,000

- Necessary for protection of officers managing explosive devices
- Current equipment is expired and outdated
- Failure to replace items will reduce response capabilities

# BOMB SUITS

## Replacement and upgrade of current equipment

Approximate Cost: \$70,000

- Replacing two outdated suits, which are starting to show signs of degradation and pose a risk of failure
- Designed to protect certified bomb technicians working on and rendering safe Improvised Explosive Devices

# PORTABLE X-RAY MACHINE

## Replacement and upgrade of current equipment

Approximate Cost: \$40,000

- Replacing approx. 15-year-old device
- Critical tool for evaluating and rendering suspicious packages and devices safe
- Necessary for identification of Improvised Explosive Devices (IED's)
- Assists in determining safest response to devices

# RADIATION DETECTOR

## Replacement and upgrade of current equipment

Approximate Cost: \$20,000

- Replacement of current non-operational device
- Used for rapid determination and evaluation of possible radiological or biological threats
- Failure to identify and manage these threats in a timely way result in large-scale injuries and fatalities.

# BOMB TECHNICIAN TOOLS

## Replacement and upgrade of current equipment

Approximate Cost: \$20,000

- These tools are critical in rendering expected IED's safe.
- Allows for more mobile and faster response than a robot may provide
- Primarily an immediate response when use of a robot may not be ideal (active shooter)

# HDU ROBOT (PRIMARY LARGE)

## Replacement and upgrade of current equipment

Approximate Cost: \$375,000

- Current robot purchased in 2004
- Normal life expectancy of unit is 10-15 years
- Current robot often fails to operate or respond when needed
- Necessary for accessing and evaluating suspicious devices
- Also used to make contact with barricaded suspects to assist with communication

# ALL TERRAIN ROBOT (SMALL)

**Not currently owned by NPD**

Approximate Cost: \$32,000

- Critical tool for evaluating and managing IED's in smaller confined spaces
- Faster and more agile than larger full capacity robot.
- More limited capabilities and duration than large unit
- Ideal for deployment in active shooter and SWAT situations
- Can be deployed to assist with situational awareness in crisis situations



# Unmanned Aerial Systems Unit (UASU)

- Founded in 2019 the NPD UASU serves our community as an effective tool for protecting lives and property within the City of Norman. The UASU is staffed by fully trained and licensed UAS pilots. The program assists with search and rescue, traffic collision investigation, crime scene documentation, critical incident monitoring (HDU, SWAT), disaster response, and critical infrastructure inspections.
- All team members have completed FAA licensing and meet national guidelines.

# Drones & Support Equipment

## Upgrade of current equipment

Approximate Cost: \$35,000

- Additional devices that will improve response capacities
- Includes safety lighting, monitoring, charging equipment
- Industry leading tool for search & rescue, natural disasters, and critical incident response

# Bike Team

- The NPD bike team provides operational support and community outreach. An industry-leading tool for safe management of large-scale events. Provides mobility and visibility for officers in areas where vehicular or foot operations are not efficient or reasonable. Deployed to natural disasters, search and rescue incidents, and an excellent community outreach tool.
- NPD bike team is operated within the standards of the International Police Mountain Bike Association (IPMBA). NPD officers assist in development and instruction of officers throughout the state and nation.

# ELECTRIC ASSIST BIKES

## Upgrade of current equipment

Approximate Cost: \$10,000

- Excellent tool for reduction of overexertion and injuries
- Allows for prolonged deployment
- Greatly expands effective range of deployed officers
- Has previously been deployed at NPD on demo basis for national training guidance

# Seizure Funds

- **Asset forfeiture processes are highly regulated by state law**
  - Norman's seizure funds come primarily from interstate organized crime
  - Nearly all are not Norman residents, most not even from Oklahoma
- **Must have probable cause, burden is always on the state**
  - Must prove nexus between criminal activity and the currency
  - All items/funds must be adjudicated by courts before use
- **2020:** \$1,539,338 in currency (2.4% from Norman Residents)
- **2021:** \$126,896 in currency (3.5% from Norman Residents)
- **2022:** \$1,767,528 in currency (6.2% from Norman Residents)
- **Available funds:** Federal: \$202,699      State: \$1,268,876

# What if...

- If this funding is approved, it will significantly improve our department's abilities to protect lives during our community's most dangerous times. The requested tools will enhance our current failing efforts to meet minimal industry standards.
- Without the equipment, we will experience continued degradation of our abilities to respond to those in crisis when they need us most. As we fail to meet standards, we will lose critical response capabilities our community relies upon (HDU).
- Simply put, inaction will reduce the safety of our residents, our officers, and our community as we will, on an increased rate, be reliant on other agencies to protect our community.

**Questions?**