City of Sweet Home Police Department

CF Grant- K9 Vehicle/Ballistic Protection

Simplified Preliminary Architectural Report (PAR)

1. Current Situation & Need for Project

The Sweet Home Police Department started our first ever Drug Detection K9 Program in November of 2018. We serve a population of approximately 9,000 people, nestled in the foothills of the Cascade Mountains. Being a small community, funds are very limited for new programs and we rely on fundraisers and donations to keep the program going.



Officer McDonald personally donated K9 Gemma, a 4-year-old Belgian Milionis to work as a Narcotics Detection K9 and so far, K9 Gemma helped seize \$7,635 in cash, 17.51 oz of Meth, 1oz of Cocaine, 3.5 oz of Heroin, and 3 stolen firearms.





At the start of the program back in November of 2018, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office donated a 2013 fully outfitted K9 Tahoe. At the time, the K9 Tahoe had about 90,000 miles on it and now the mileage is around 126,000. Typically, patrol vehicles are replaced at 120,000 miles. However, since there was no budget in the program for a new vehicle, it has not been replaced. With the mileage going up, there may be potential mechanical problems that will arise and will hinder the use of K9 Gemma in the field. If the current vehicle is broken down for a significant amount of time, K9 Gemma would not be able to work as there are no other vehicles to accommodate a K9. This in turn would hinder our efforts in keeping our community safe from drugs and preventing crime.









Along with replacing a K9 vehicle, we are looking at purchasing ballistic vest carriers. Currently, we only have one vehicle equipped with a Level IV trauma plate vest carrier to protect one officer from an active shooter type incident. (Level IV trauma plates stop an AR 15 and AK47

rifle rounds) Our goal is to purchase 9 vests, equaling one vest per patrol vehicle so all our officers have access to rifle rated ballistic protection. We also want to purchase 7 ballistic shields that will stop a .308 or greater caliber rifle rounds and have them available when the need arises. With the increase in active shooter incidents, we want to have the equipment available to protect our officer's lives so in turn they can protect our community.

2. Feasible Alternatives

a. Alternative 1- No Action.

If we are unable to secure funding assistance with the purchase of a new K9 patrol vehicle and ballistic vests/shields, our community would be placed at greater risk for criminal activity. If the vehicle is not replaced, the current vehicle may encounter mechanical failures which will halt the use of narcotics K9 Gemma. If K9 Gemma is unable to work, the frequency of drug related crimes would increase since there would be less deterrence/enforcement.

If we do not secure funding for ballistic vests/shields, we may lose officers' and/or community members lives if an active shooter incident were to occur. These vests and shields are imperative in protecting our community in active shooter situations.

Cost: \$0, however, community members may lose thousands of dollars in form of drug related crimes such as theft, burglary, and vehicle theft. Also, lives may be lost in a critical incident if one were to occur if there was no vital protection equipment available. There is no dollar amount that can be placed on a human life.

b. Alternative 2- New 2020 K9 Outfitted Dodge Durango & 9 Level IV Ballistic Vests/7 Shields.

We are requesting assistance with purchasing a 2020 fully outfitted K9 Dodge Durango patrol ready SUV. According to our research, this is the most cost effective, reliable option for a patrol K9 vehicle. Purchasing a new K9 outfitted SUV will last us approximately 8 years. This will reduce costs for the tax paying community as the vehicle will have zero to minor mechanical and maintenance costs during the years of service. This will also help us keep the K9 program going to keep drugs off our streets.

Cost: K9 Dodge Durango \$47,479.44; Ballistic vests and shields \$11, 850.00

Total Cost: \$59,329.44

c. Alternative 3- New 2020 K9 Outfitted Ford Explorer Interceptor & 9 Level IV Ballistic Vests/7 Shields.

The Ford Explorer Interceptor is the second option to outfit for a K9 vehicle.

Cost: 2020 Ford Explorer \$50,148.85; Ballistic vests and shields \$11, 850.00

Total Cost: \$61,998.85

3. **Evaluate and Compare Alternatives**

Currently, there are only two pursuit rated SUV options available to be outfitted as a K9 patrol vehicle. Chevrolet stopped production of pursuit rated Tahoe for two years due to a "styling refresh." So now we only have a choice between the 2020 Dodge Durango or 2020 Ford Explorer. The Dodge Durango is more affordable out of the two with the V8 5.7L Hemi engine option as more reliable. The Ford Explorer offers a Hybrid version, which is more fuel efficient, however costs significantly more. When researching the difference between the two vehicles, Ford seemed to have more quality control issues which caused new vehicles to be sent back to have parts fixed or replaced. Since we rely on the only one k9 vehicle, we need it built right the first time. Also, several large agencies in the State of Oregon have been using Dodge Durango's as their patrol vehicles with zero complaints and maintenance issues.

For the Ballistic vests and shields we received two quotes from different companies. The company who quoted the prices used in this application significantly outbid the other one. Also, these ballistic vests/shields are made in the United States and certified by the National Institute of Justice.

4. Selected Alternative

We select alternative #2, New 2020 K9 Outfitted Dodge Durango and 9 Level IV Ballistic Vests/7 Shields. This is the most cost effective, reliable alternative out of the two, saving our community \$2,669.41. The Durango is the most reliable vehicle out of the two and will keep K9 Gemma continuously working out on the street. The base price for a 2020 Dodge Durango 5.7L Hemi is \$31,180.46 and the add-ons to make it a work ready, K9 patrol vehicle are \$16,298.98 with labor included. Typically, patrol vehicles outfitted for K9 are slightly more expensive due to a special K9 housing compartment and heat alarm system to keep the K9 safe and cool during work hours. (An invoice for a complete build for this alternative is attached at the end of this application)







The ballistic vests with level IV protection plates are \$350.00 each. They come with double rifle pistol pouch, "Police" patches, tourniquet, and shears. The total for 9 vests is \$3,150.00. We are wanting to purchase 5 Level IIIA 14 pound shields for \$900 each and 2 heavier duty Level III 33 pound shields for \$2,100 each. The total for all 7 shields is \$8,700.





Proposed	Funding	Sources
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\$20,765.30-CF Grant (35%)

\$38,564.14- Applicant contribution (65%)

\$59,329.44- Total projected cost

The City of Sweet Home's contribution is budgeted for the next fiscal budget year, which starts July 1st, 2020.

6. Proposed Project Budget

\$47,479.44-Durango

\$3,150.00-Ballistic Vests

\$8,700- Shields

\$0-contingency

\$59,329.44-Total project cost

Signature: ______ Date: 3/22/20

Report Prepared by: Alexandra McOnard K9 Officer

(Name) (Title)