



ANNUAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF RPD'S MILITARY EQUIPMENT USE POLICY

Safety, Wellness, & Youth Committee
October 15, 2025

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LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND

- Ca Governor signed AB 481 in September 2021, became effective January 1, 2022
- Classifies certain Law Enforcement Equipment as "Military Equipment," requiring City Council oversight whether equipment was ever used by the US Military or not
- Requires a "Military Equipment Use Policy" be adopted by the City Council (Introduced 4-26-2022; Adopted 5-10-2022)
- An annual review and approval of the policy is required at a public meeting.



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BACKGROUND

- **April 26, 2022** - City Council called a hearing and introduced Ordinance 7586 adding Chapter 2.70 to the RMC related to adoption of RPD Military Equipment Policy in accordance with AB 481 and CA Gov. Code Sections 7070 through 7075
- **May 10, 2022** - City Council adopted Ordinance No. 7586
- **August 15, 2023** - City Council reviewed and approved the RPD Military Equipment Policy
- **September 17, 2024** – City Council reviewed and approved the RPD Military Equipment Policy



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RPD MILITARY EQUIPMENT POLICY 705

- Military Equipment Policy: governs the use of equipment described in CA Government Code 7070, such as:
 - Aerial drones
 - Less-lethal weapon systems
 - Mobile command posts
 - Bomb-disposal robots
 - Search and rescue equipment
- Military Equipment Policy has not changed since approval with the exception of updates to the fiscal impact



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EQUIPMENT PURPOSE

- Preserve human life
- Search and rescue operations
- Rapid response to critical incidents
- High-risk apprehensions
- Hostage and victim rescue
- Safe and effective de-escalation tactics
- Less lethal use of force options
- Reduced likelihood of injury or death to officers/ public.



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RPD MILITARY EQUIPMENT POLICY 705

Military Equipment Annual Report per RMC Chapter 2.70

- ✓ Summary of equipment purpose and use can be found in Policy Attachment A: Military Equipment Inventory
- ✓ Department received no complaints or concerns regarding Military Equipment
- ✓ Department observed no violations of Military Equipment Policy
- ✓ FY 24-25 costs can be found in Policy Attachments B: Military Equipment Fiscal Impact
- ✓ FY25-26 costs, if any, will be funded with existing Department budget
- ✓ Equipment quantities can be found in Policy Attachment B: Military Equipment Fiscal Impact
- ✓ RPD is evaluating a potential purchase of rifles. If rifles are purchased, proper approval will be obtained per CA Government Code



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RPD MILITARY EQUIPMENT POLICY 705

The following can be found on the City of Riverside Website as required by AB 481:

- Riverside Police Department Policy 705
- Riverside Police Department Military Equipment Inventory
- Riverside Police Department Military Equipment Fiscal Impact

<https://www.riversideca.gov/rpd/military-equipment>



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RECOMMENDATIONS

That the City Council:

1. Approve the Riverside Police Department Military Equipment Policy for the approval, acquisition, deployment, and reporting requirements of specialized law enforcement equipment classified under the California Government Code as "military equipment"; and
2. Authorize the Department to send a copy of the Riverside Police Department Military Equipment Policy to the Governor's Office in accordance with Assembly Bill 481.



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