

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA, ADDING SECTION 2.80.080 ENTITLED “MILITARY EQUIPMENT POLICY” TO “THE CODE OF THE CITY OF SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA” IN COMPLIANCE WITH ASSEMBLY BILL 481

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SANTA CLARA AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, on September 30, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom signed into law Assembly Bill 481 (creating Government Code Section 7070, et seq.), relating to the use of military equipment by California law enforcement agencies;

WHEREAS, AB 481 seeks to provide transparency, oversight, and an opportunity for meaningful public input on decisions regarding whether and how military equipment is funded, acquired, or used;

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara Police Department is in possession of certain items of equipment that qualify as “military equipment” under AB 481;

WHEREAS, AB 481 requires that a law enforcement agency possessing and using such qualifying equipment prepare a publicly released, written, military equipment use policy document covering the inventory, description, purpose, use, acquisition, maintenance, fiscal impacts, procedures, training, oversight, and complaint process, applicable to the Department’s use of such equipment;

WHEREAS, the Policy and supporting information must be approved by the governing body by ordinance, and reviewed annually; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Santa Clara, having received the information required under AB 481 regarding the Santa Clara Police Department’s use of military equipment as defined in said law, deems it to be in the best interest of the City to approve the Military Equipment Policy as set forth herein.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SANTA CLARA
AS FOLLOWS:**

SECTION 1: That a new Section 2.80.080 is added to Chapter 2.80 (entitled “Police Department”) of Title 2 (entitled “Administration and Personnel”) of “The Code of the City of Santa Clara, California” to read as follows:

“2.80.080 Military Equipment Policy.

(a) The City Council has made the following determinations:

(1) The military equipment inventoried and presented to the City Council is necessary because there is no reasonable alternative that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety;

(2) The proposed military equipment use policy (“Policy”) will safeguard the public’s welfare, safety, civil rights, and civil liberties;

(3) The equipment is reasonably cost effective compared to available alternatives that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety (if any);

(4) Prior military equipment use complied with the applicable equipment use policy (which included equipment now defined as military equipment) that was in effect at the time, or if prior uses did not comply with the accompanying military equipment use policy, corrective action has been taken to remedy nonconforming uses and ensure future compliance.

(b) The Police Department has submitted a proposed Policy to the City Council and has made those documents available on the Police Department’s website for at least 30 days prior to the public hearing concerning the military equipment at issue.

(c) The Policy was considered by the City Council as an agenda item in an open session of a regular meeting, noticed in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act, at which public comment was permitted.

(d) The Policy shall be made publicly available on the Police Department's website for as long as the military equipment is available for use.

(e) The Police Department shall submit an annual military equipment report to the City Council, containing the information required in Government Code Section 7072, and the City Council shall determine whether each type of military equipment identified in that report has complied with the standards for approval set forth in (a)(1)-(4) above.

(f) The City Council shall review this ordinance, and vote on whether to renew it, on an annual basis at a regular meeting, in accordance with Government Code Section 7071(e)(2)

(g) The City Council approves the use of the Policy, and finds that it satisfies the requirements of Government Code Section 7070(d)."

SECTION 2: Ordinances Repealed. With exception of the provisions protected by the savings clause, all ordinances (or parts of ordinances) in conflict with or inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3: Savings clause. The changes provided for in this ordinance shall not affect any offense or act committed or done or any penalty or forfeiture incurred or any right established or accruing before the effective date of this ordinance; nor shall it affect any prosecution, suit or proceeding pending or any judgment rendered prior to the effective date of this ordinance. All fee schedules shall remain in force until superseded by the fee schedules adopted by the City Council.

SECTION 4: Effective date. This ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after its final adoption; however, prior to its final adoption it shall be published in accordance with the requirements of Section 808 and 812 of “The Charter of the City of Santa Clara, California.”

PASSED FOR THE PURPOSE OF PUBLICATION this XX day of XXXXXX, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES:	COUNCILORS:
NOES:	COUNCILORS:
ABSENT:	COUNCILORS:
ABSTAINED:	COUNCILORS:

ATTEST: _____
NORA PIMENTEL, MMC
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
CITY OF SANTA CLARA

- Attachments incorporated by reference:
1. Lexipol Policy 706 “Military Equipment”
 2. Inventory of Military Equipment as of January 1, 2022