

ORDINANCE NUMBER O- **22130** (NEW SERIES)

DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE **SEP 02 2026**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF SAN DIEGO ADOPTING THE SAN DIEGO POLICE
DEPARTMENT'S UPDATED MILITARY EQUIPMENT USE
PROCEDURE AND RENEWING APPROVAL FOR MILITARY
EQUIPMENT UNDER ASSEMBLY BILL 481.

RECITALS

The Council of the City of San Diego (Council) adopts this Ordinance based on the following:

A. Assembly Bill 481 (A.B. 481), codified in California Government Code (Government Code) sections 7070 through 7075, requires the San Diego Police Department (Department) to obtain the approval of the Council by an ordinance adopting its Military Equipment Use Procedure (Procedure) prior to requesting military equipment from the federal government, seeking funds for military equipment, including grants and donations, acquiring military equipment, collaborating with another law enforcement agency in the use of military equipment in San Diego, using any new or existing military equipment in a manner not previously approved by the Council, or entering into an agreement for funding, receipt, acquisition, use of, or collaboration in the use of military equipment.

B. A.B. 481 defines military equipment in Government Code section 7070(c) to include a wide range of equipment as described in the Department's updated 2026 Procedure (also known as Department Procedure 1.57 - Military Equipment).

C. To comply with A.B. 481, on May 3, 2022, the Council first adopted San Diego Ordinance O-21451 (Ordinance O-21451).

D. After approval, A.B. 481 requires the Department to submit to the Council an Annual Report for each type of approved military equipment.

E. Each year, the Council must review the Annual Report and the ordinance approving military equipment and vote whether to renew the ordinance.

F. In reviewing the Annual Report, the Council shall determine whether the military equipment has complied with the standards described in Government Code section 7071(d), including: (1) the equipment is necessary because there is no reasonable alternative that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety; (2) the equipment use procedure 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; and (4) if there has been any non-compliance, that corrective measures have been taken to remedy nonconforming uses and ensure future compliance.

G. On July 15, 2025, the Council adopted San Diego Ordinance O-21984 (Ordinance O-21984) renewing approval for military equipment under Government Code section 7071(e).

H. To promote public safety, civil rights, and officer safety, the Department desires to continue using, seeking funding for, acquiring, and collaborating, when necessary, with other law enforcement agencies, in the use of the military equipment described in the Procedure.

I. Although the federal government allows local law enforcement agencies to obtain certain types of military equipment through a program authorized by section 2576a of Title 10 of the United States Code, commonly known as the "1033 Program" or "LESO Program," the Department has not participated in this program since 2020 and does not intend to participate in the future.

J. Since the adoption of Ordinance O-21984, the Department has added additional equipment including drones and pepper ball launchers, pepper ball launchers, and intends to acquire a Tac Cat.

K. As required by Government Code sections 7071 and 7072, the Department posted the 2025 Annual Report and the updated Procedure online and held a community meeting on June 3, 2026.

L. The mission of the Department is to provide the highest quality police services to the communities it serves.

M. The Department values transparency and public input and welcomes open dialogue about its practices and operations.

N. The preservation and sustainability of public safety, civil rights, and officer safety is paramount.

O. The Department responds to a wide variety of critical incidents, instances of civil unrest, and life and death situations, and operates in numerous unpredictable, dynamic environments.

P. A variety of equipment options is needed for safe and effective resolution of those situations.

Q. Each situation is evaluated by incident commanders or supervisors who, based on circumstances and Department directives, determine which equipment should be used.

R. The Department's diverse catalogue of military equipment and associated training gives police officers the confidence and capability to de-escalate volatile situations, enhance the safety of the public and officers, and bring critical incidents to a safe resolution.

S. From time to time, the Department may be asked to assist or need to be assisted by other law enforcement agencies, which may include the use of military equipment.

T. Partnerships with other law enforcement agencies are an integral part of maintaining the continuity of public safety within the region.

U. The Council has examined the Department's 2025 Annual Military Equipment Report and the updated Procedure.

V. The Office of the City Attorney prepared this Ordinance based on the information provided by City staff, with the understanding that this information is complete and accurate.

ACTION ITEMS

Be it ordained by the Council of the City of San Diego:

Section 1. Under Government Code section 7071(d), the Council finds that the military equipment described in the updated Procedure is necessary because there is no reasonable alternative that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety.

Section 2. Under Government Code section 7071(d), the Council further finds that the updated Procedure will safeguard the public's welfare, safety, civil rights, and civil liberties.

Section 3. Under Government Code section 7071(d), the Council further finds that continued use of existing military equipment and purchase of military equipment described in the Procedure is reasonably cost effective compared to available alternatives that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety.

Section 4. Under Government Code section 7071(d), the Council further finds that prior uses of military equipment complied with the Procedure in effect at the time.

Section 5. The 2026 Procedure, on file with the Office of the City Clerk as Document No. OO- **22130** _____, is adopted.

Section 6. By adoption of the 2026 Procedure, the Council approves military equipment under the terms of A.B. 481.

Section 7. Ordinance O-21451 (May 3, 2022) and all subsequent renewing ordinances to date are renewed.

Section 8. This approval is not intended to, and shall not supersede, existing processes to seek approval for the appropriation and expenditure of specific funds through the annual budget process, or existing processes for the approval and execution of contracts, donations, and grants, or the requirement to seek approval for qualifying technologies under the Transparent and Responsible Use of Surveillance Technology Ordinance.

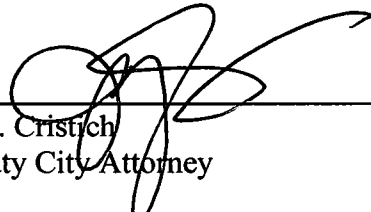
Section 9. The Council shall review this Ordinance annually and vote whether to renew the Ordinance, consistent with the requirements of state law.

Section 10. The Council dispenses with a full reading of this Ordinance before its passage because a written copy of this Ordinance was made available to the Council and the public before the date of its passage.

Section 11. This Ordinance will take effect and be in force on the thirtieth day from and after its final passage.

APPROVED: HEATHER FERBERT, City Attorney

By



Jill S. Cristich
Deputy City Attorney

JSC:ddr:ccm
June 21, 2026
Or.Dept: SDPD
Doc. No. 4470063_2

I certify that the Council of the City of San Diego adopted this Ordinance at a meeting held on
AUG 25 2026.

DIANA J.S. FUENTES
City Clerk

By Connie Patterson
Deputy City Clerk

Approved: 9/2/26
(date)

Todd Gloria
TODD GLORIA, Mayor

Vetoed: _____
(date)

TODD GLORIA, Mayor

Passed by the Council of The City of San Diego on **August 25, 2026**, by the following vote:

Councilmembers	Yeas	Nays	Not Present	Recused
Joe LaCava	☒	☐	☐	☐
Jennifer Campbell	☒	☐	☐	☐
Stephen Whitburn	☒	☐	☐	☐
Henry L. Foster III	☐	☒	☐	☐
Marni von Wilpert	☒	☐	☐	☐
Kent Lee	☒	☐	☐	☐
Raul A. Campillo	☐	☐	☒	☐
Vivian Moreno	☒	☐	☐	☐
Sean Elo-Rivera	☐	☒	☐	☐

Date of final passage SEP 02 2026.

(Please note: When an ordinance is approved by the Mayor, the date of final passage is the date the approved ordinance was returned to the Office of the City Clerk.)

AUTHENTICATED BY:

TODD GLORIA

Mayor of The City of San Diego, California.

(Seal)

DIANA J.S. FUENTES

City Clerk of The City of San Diego, California.

By , Deputy

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing ordinance was not finally passed until twelve calendar days had elapsed between the day of its introduction and the day of its final passage, to wit, on

JUL 06 2026

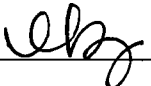
SEP 02 2026

I FURTHER CERTIFY that said ordinance was read in full prior to passage or that such reading was dispensed with by a vote of five members of the Council, and that a written copy of the ordinance was made available to each member of the Council and the public prior to the day of its passage.

(Seal)

DIANA J.S. FUENTES

City Clerk of The City of San Diego, California.

By , Deputy

Office of the City Clerk, San Diego, California

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