



## **CITY OF SALINAS COUNCIL STAFF REPORT**

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**DATE:** DECEMBER 7, 2021

**DEPARTMENT:** SALINAS POLICE DEPARTMENT

**FROM:** ROBERTO FILICE, CHIEF OF POLICE

**BY:** TONYA ERICKSON, MANAGEMENT ANALYST

**TITLE:** PURCHASE OF 2022 FORD F-250 TRUCK AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT

### RECOMMENDED MOTION:

A motion to approve a Resolution authorizing the direct purchase of a 2022 Ford F-250 truck and associated equipment for a total cost not to exceed \$73,059.28.

### RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that City Council approve the direct purchase of a 2022 Ford F-250 truck and associated upfitting equipment to support the Salinas Police Department's Aerial Support Unit. A 2022 Ford F-250 truck will be purchased from Salinas Valley Ford for a total cost of \$58,625.00. The vehicle radio and associated radio equipment will be purchased from Motorola for a total cost of \$7,965.90. Truck equipment, including a camper shell, bed slide and inverter may be purchased from, and installed by, Leisure West Camper Shells, CargoEase, Grainger and/or any alternate equipment vendors with costs not to exceed \$6,468.38. Total cost for the vehicle and identified equipment shall not exceed \$73,059.28.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Salinas Police Department's Aerial Support Unit does not have an assigned vehicle which is appropriately equipped to support the efficient deployment of the specialized unit. The Department is requesting the purchase of a 2022 Ford F-250 truck capable of transporting members of the team with the extensive equipment necessary to support a successful deployment. The truck needs to be equipped with a radio unit, camper shell, bed slide, and inverter to facilitate successful field-based operations.

### BACKGROUND:

The Salinas Police Aerial Support (SPAS) Unit was established in December 2020 and utilizes Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) to improve the quality of life of the residents of Salinas in a fast, cost effective and efficient manner. To meet this goal, UAVs are utilized in multiple ways to

include search and rescue operations (missing persons), suspect identification and apprehension, assisting the Salinas Fire Department utilizing thermal imaging, as well as crime and accident scene reconstruction. By using UAVs the city is able to achieve most of the benefits of having a police helicopter without the expense. The unit currently has seven officers assigned to it as a collateral assignment and they are overseen by a sergeant and commander. All SPAS pilots are licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and since December 2020, SPAS has flown 147 missions and assisted in 31 arrests. The unit has also assisted Salinas Fire Department with four incidents.

SPAS utilizes various UAVs which vary in size from just over one foot in length and weighing less than a pound, to nearly four feet in length and weighing over fifteen pounds. No matter the size of UAV used there is support equipment which must be deployed such as multiple battery packs and charging stations, power inverters, large screen viewing monitors, outdoor lighting equipment, canopies and tables, landing and launch pads, officer field deployment bags and backup UAV's to be used if the primary UAV is not flight worthy. SPAS pilots are deployed in pairs, one remote pilot in charge (RPIC) and one spotter, a role which each can share for lengthy deployments. When officers are called out for deployment the equipment needed will include at least three UAVs and all the associated support equipment mentioned previously. SPAS has been called out dozens of times to assist with missing persons, search warrant services, assisting the fire department, and crime scene documentation. The SPAS team is required to train once a month to maintain their perishable skills.

During FY 2020-21, the Salinas Police Department, in collaboration with the Public Works Fleet Division, developed a comprehensive Police Vehicle Replacement Plan which established target purchase/replacement cycles based upon vehicle assignment, usage data and best practices in fleet management. The plan projected necessary replacement through the next two decades, and identified the annual funding needed based upon current costs. Unfortunately, the plan did not incorporate the fleet needs of this newly established SPAS unit, and given the current condition of the Police Fleet, there is not a vehicle available to dedicate to SPAS. Given the lack of available vehicle within the existing police fleet and the absence of identified funding within the Fleet Replacement Plan, the Police Department proposes using existing Asset Forfeiture funds to purchase a dedicated vehicle for SPAS. Asset Forfeiture funds may only be used for permissible expenditures for use by sworn and non-sworn law enforcement personnel. Per the US Department of Justice's Guide to Equitable Sharing for State, Local, and Tribal Law Enforcement Agencies, the purchase of vehicles is a permitted expenditure.

The SPAS has identified the need for a full-size truck and the 2022 Ford F-250 4x4 Crew Cab was selected as the appropriate vehicle for the unit. The vehicle will be upfitted with a Motorola radio, camper shell, bed slide, and inverter to support the storage, transport, and field-operations of the unit. Salinas Valley Ford has provided a quote reflecting a total cost of \$58,625.00 for the truck, this quote is less than the amount quoted via Sourcewell Contract 120716-NAF. The department will also purchase directly from Motorola, an APX8500 All Band MP Mobile Radio, with associated radio equipment, for a total cost of \$7,965.90. This Motorola radio is the established standard equipment for police vehicles. The department will also purchase associated equipment, including a camper shell, bed slide and inverter, and has identified Leisure West Camper Shells, CargoEase, and Grainger as potential vendors. Though quotes were received from the equipment

vendors identified above, the department reserves the right to purchase this camper shell (\$3,500.00), bed slide (\$2,342.32) and inverter (\$626.06) from alternate vendors as long as the total costs for this equipment does not to exceed \$6,468.38.

The City Council has the authority to approve this direct purchase under Salinas Municipal code Section 12-27 and for the Motorola Radio without application of the local purchasing preference pursuant to Salinas Municipal Code Section 12-28.080. Salinas Valley Ford is a local vendor and will be the business from which the truck is purchased.

#### Police Community Advisory Committee

The Police Chief identified this potential purchase in his Chief's Report to the Police Community Advisory Committee. The Committee did not provide any comments in response to this proposed purchase.

#### CEQA CONSIDERATION:

**Not a Project.** The City of Salinas has determined that the proposed action is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378).

#### STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVE:

Approving the proposed resolution will support the City Council's Strategic Plan Goal of Public Safety.

#### DEPARTMENTAL COORDINATION:

The Police Service coordinated with the Public Works Fleet Division on the equipment for the truck and will coordinate with the Finance Department during the purchasing process.

#### FISCAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

No new funds are requested to support this purchase. The Police Department intends to use existing Asset Forfeiture funds to support this purchase. Funds exist in the Asset Forfeiture Pooled Cash and Investment Fund, account 2502-11.9999. The Resolution requests that City Council increase the appropriation for the Asset Forfeiture budget, account 2502.40.4380-66.5500, by \$73,059.28 to allow the purchasing of this truck and identified equipment.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution  
Quotes - Vehicle and Equipment