



Agenda Item No. _____

File Code No. 520.04

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: July 13, 2010
TO: Mayor and Councilmembers
FROM: Patrol Division, Police Department
SUBJECT: Donation Of Lenco Bearcat Special Purpose Vehicle To The Police Department

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council accept the donation of a 2010 Lenco Bearcat Special Purpose Vehicle, from the County of Santa Barbara, Office of Emergency Services (OES), for use by the Santa Barbara Police Department.

DISCUSSION:

Santa Barbara Police Department Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT) and Crisis Negotiations Response Team (CNRT), are tasked with responding to high risk tactical incidents, including any domestic terrorist events in the City of Santa Barbara. The department currently lacks a special purpose vehicle with ballistic capabilities for the transportation of equipment and trained personnel in response to high risk incidents.

When officers and/or civilians are injured and in need of extraction in order to save their lives, time is of the essence. A Bearcat would allow any trained on-duty officer the ability to drive into a critical incident scene for the immediate extraction of a downed injured officer and/or civilian. In addition, a Bearcat could allow officers who are fired upon to resolve a critical incident without the use of deadly force against the suspect. Absent a ballistic rescue vehicle approach by officers, deadly force would be the only viable option if officers and/or civilians are fired upon.

The Lenco Bearcat vehicle will greatly enhance the security of our police officers and the citizens of Santa Barbara.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Valued at \$242,910, the vehicle is being donated by the County of Santa Barbara, Office of Emergency Services (OES), as a result of a Homeland Security Grant. The allocated cost for yearly maintenance will be considered at mid-year review with several other vehicles in the Police Department's fleet.

PREPARED BY: Captain Alex Altavilla, Patrol Division

SUBMITTED BY: Camerino Sanchez, Chief of Police

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office