



CITY OF WESTMINSTER
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
AND
ORDINANCE SUMMARY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WESTMINSTER WILL HOLD A **PUBLIC HEARING** AS FOLLOWS:

HEARING BODY: CITY COUNCIL
DATE OF HEARING: Wednesday, August 28, 2024
TIME OF HEARING: 6:00 PM OR SOON THEREAFTER
LOCATION OF HEARING: City of Westminster
Council Chambers at the Westminster Civic Center
8200 Westminster Boulevard
Westminster, California 92683 or

PUBLIC HEARING ITEM:

The City Council will conduct first reading at its Regular Meeting on August 28, 2024, scheduled to commence at 6:00 PM.

**ORDINANCE SUMMARY AND
FIRST READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE NO. XXXX**

ORDINANCE NO. XXXX

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF WESTMINSTER, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING
THE CITY'S POLICY REGARDING THE USE OF
"MILITARY EQUIPMENT"

On July 28, 2024, the proposed policy was published on the Westminster Police Department's webpage. To comply with the terms of Assembly Bill 481 (AB 481), a thirty-day review period was initiated at that time. The item is now being submitted to the City Council for its first reading and a public hearing. If approved by the City Council at the August 28, 2024 meeting, second reading and adoption of ORDINANCE NO. XXXX would be scheduled for the September 11, 2024, City Council meeting.

Assembly Bill 481 (AB 481), codified as Government Code sections 7070 through 7075, requires a law enforcement agency to obtain approval from the applicable governing body, for the procurement, maintenance, and use of legislatively identified "military equipment," via the adoption of a "military equipment" use policy and resolution.

Pursuant to AB 481, items deemed to be "military equipment" include, but are not limited to, unmanned aerial or ground vehicles, armored vehicles, command and control vehicles, pepper balls, less lethal shotguns, less lethal 40mm projectile launchers, certain firearms, long range acoustic devices (LRAD), and flashbangs.

Items deemed to be "military equipment" by AB 481 are used as a component of overall best practices for law enforcement agencies, including Westminster PD, throughout the country. These tools have been field tested and are used by law enforcement agencies nationwide to enhance public and officer safety.

Loss of these items would jeopardize the welfare of peace officers and the citizens of Westminster, whom they serve.

The proposed ordinance seeks to approve the WPD's revised Policy § 706, which constitutes WPD's Military Equipment Use Policy. Policy § 706 outlines each item identified in Government Code section 7070, that is currently owned by the City. Policy § 706 also includes the current use and cost of each item. Nearly all of these items, and their stated uses, have been in place prior to the implementation of AB 481.

INVITATION TO BE HEARD:

The public is welcome and invited to comment pertaining to this Public Hearing Item. All persons wishing to speak and participate on this matter may do so via one of the following:

- In Person by attending the legislative meeting; or
- Via E-Comment/Email by visiting the City's Website and click on the link: ecomments@westminster-ca.gov; or
- Written Comment via Drop-Off to be filed with the City of Westminster, City Clerk's Office, 8200 Westminster Blvd, Westminster, CA 92683, during our Regular Posted Business Hours. Written MUST be received by the City Clerk's Office by no later than 2:00 PM on said Public Hearing date; or
- Written Comment via U.S. Mail MUST be received by the City of Westminster, City Clerk's Office, at least 1-business day prior to the scheduled Public Hearing 8200 Westminster Blvd., Westminster, CA 82683.

Please reference the Public Hearing Title, date of hearing, and Agenda Item, in any written correspondence or Email Subject Line.

Further information may be obtained by contacting the following:

Scott Gump, Westminster Police Department/Commander
(714) 548-3753
sgump@westminster-ca.gov

A copy of the Public Hearing item and Ordinance as listed above will be available for review at City Hall, City Clerk's Office, 8200 Westminster Boulevard, Westminster, and/or a copy may be obtained from the City Clerk at a nominal charge during posted business hours. The Agenda Staff Report and attachments, if any, will also be available on the City's website at <https://www.westminster-ca.gov>.

/S/

Ashton R. Arocho, MMC
City Clerk of the City of Westminster

DATED: August 15, 2024

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