



# STAFF REPORT

DATE: 03/19/2025  
TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members  
FROM: Police Department

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**2025-106**

## REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

### **SUBJECT:**

RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE SUBMISSION AND PUBLIC RELEASE OF CORONA POLICE DEPARTMENT 2024 ANNUAL MILITARY EQUIPMENT REPORT AND RENEWING ORDINANCE NO. 3347

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This staff report asks City Council to consider the Corona Police Department 2024 annual military equipment report and vote to renew Ordinance No. 3347. Adopting the attached proposed Resolution will acknowledge the Police Department's submission and public release of the 2024 annual report, compliance with Assembly Bill 481, and renewal of Ordinance No. 3347

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

That the City Council approve the attached resolution acknowledging the submission and public release of the Corona Police Department 2024 Annual Military Equipment Report (Policy 709 and AB 481) and renewing Ordinance No. 3347 which adopted Policy 709.

### **BACKGROUND & HISTORY:**

On September 30, 2021, California Governor Gavin Newsom signed into law Assembly Bill 481 (AB 481), which became effective January 1, 2022, codifying California Government Code Sections 7070 through 7075. The full text to AB481 can be found at:

[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202120220AB481](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB481)

### AB 481 – Adoption of Policy & Ordinance

AB 481 required the Police Department to do the following:

- Create a Military Equipment Use Policy.
- Post the Policy on the Department's website for at least 30 days.
- Offer a public meeting to consider the Policy.
- Obtain City Council approval of the Policy by ordinance.

These actions must be taken before the Department can:

- Acquire additional military equipment
- Collaborate with another law enforcement agency in the use of military equipment
- Use any new or existing military equipment in a manner not previously approved by the City Council,
- Enter into an agreement for the funding, receipt, acquisition, use of, or collaboration in the use of military equipment.

In compliance with AB 481, the Police Department prepared its Military Equipment Use Policy (Policy 709), including an exhibit listing the military equipment in possession of the City (Corona Police Department Specialized Equipment Inventory). The Police Department thereafter posted Policy 709 on the City's website for at least 30 days and presented it to the City Council on May 18, 2022, for community and City Council consideration. At that public meeting, the City Council introduced City Ordinance 3347 approving Policy 709, and the City Council subsequently adopted Ordinance 3347 on June 1, 2022.

### AB 481 – Annual Review of Ordinance and Report

Ordinance No. 3347 and AB 481 also require the City Council to review Ordinance 3347 at least annually at a regular meeting and to vote on whether to renew the ordinance. In order to do so, the City Council must consider an annual military equipment report prepared by the Police Department and posted on the City's website for at least 30 days.

The annual report must include at least the following information for the immediately preceding calendar year for each type of military equipment: (1) a summary of how the military equipment was used and the purpose of its use; (2) a summary of any complaints or concerns received concerning the military equipment; (3) the results of any internal audits, any information about violations of the military equipment use policy, and any actions taken in response; (4) the total annual cost for each type of military equipment, including acquisition, personnel, training, transportation, maintenance, storage, upgrade, and other ongoing costs, and from what source funds will be provided for the military equipment in the calendar year following submission of the annual military equipment report; (5) the quantity possessed for each type of military equipment; and (6) if the City intends to acquire additional military equipment in the next year, the quantity sought for each type of military equipment.

To vote to renew Ordinance No. 3347, the City Council must find that each type of military equipment identified in the annual report has complied with the standards for approval set forth in Government Code Section (d)(1) (i.e., the same standards required to initially approve Ordinance No. 3347 in 2022).

The Police Department has prepared the Corona Police Department 2024 Annual Military Equipment Report (Policy 709 & AB 481) (“2024 Annual Report”), for 2024, which it posted on its website on February 18, 2025, in compliance with AB 481.

**ANALYSIS:**

Staff is seeking approval and support from the City Council for the continued use and deployment of the equipment covered by Policy 709. Such equipment is currently deployed by law enforcement agencies in Riverside County, in neighboring San Bernardino, San Diego, and Orange Counties, as well as throughout the State of California and across the nation.

The equipment covered by Policy 709 is recognized and more appropriately identified by local, state, and federal law enforcement entities as specialized police equipment. Locally, the Association of Riverside County Chiefs of Police and Sheriff (ARCCOPS) have endorsed the list of specialized equipment which is already in use across the county.

The Corona Police Department, Riverside County Sheriff’s Department, Riverside County Probation Department, Riverside County District Attorney’s Office, Riverside California Highway Patrol, the county’s eleven (11) municipal police departments, three (3) university and school police departments, and members of the ARCCOPS, have committed to working cooperatively across jurisdictional boundaries to ensure that all catastrophic events, responses to critical incidents, search and rescue operations, and many other multi-jurisdictional events that arise from neighboring counties are supported safely and justifiably. Any events which require the use of any of the specialized equipment covered by Policy 709 are conducted in a fair, transparent, and professional manner.

By adopting the proposed resolution attached hereto, the City Council will take the following actions and support the Police Department’s continued use and deployment of the equipment covered by Policy 709:

1. 2024 Annual Report - Submission & Public Release: Acknowledge the submission and public release of the 2024 Annual Report.
2. 2024 Annual Report - Continuous Website Public Availability: Require that the 2024 Annual Report shall be made publicly available on the City’s website for as long as the military equipment is available for use.
3. Ordinance 3347 - Findings for Renewal: Find and determine that each type of military equipment identified in the 2024 Annual Report has complied with the following standards for approval set forth in Government Code Section (d)(1): (A) The military

equipment identified in the 2024 Annual Report is necessary because there is no reasonable alternative that can achieve the same objectives of officer and civilian safety; (B) The 2024 Annual Report and Policy 709 will safeguard the public's welfare, safety, civil rights, and civil liberties; (C) Any equipment identified in the 2024 Annual Report and proposed to be purchased pursuant to Policy 709 is reasonably cost effective compared to available alternatives that can achieve the same objectives of officer and civilian safety; and (D) Military equipment used in 2024 complied with Policy 709 and/or the military equipment use policy that was in effect at the time, or if such uses did not comply with the military use policy, corrective action has been taken to remedy nonconforming uses and ensure future compliance.

4. Ordinance 3347 - Renewal: Renew Ordinance 3347.
5. Ordinance 3347 - Continuous Website Public Availability: Require that Ordinance 3347 shall remain publicly available on the City's website for as long as the military equipment is available for use.
6. Community Engagement Meeting: Find that the meeting at which the resolution was considered satisfies the requirement to timely hold at least one well-publicized and conveniently located community engagement meeting, at which the general public may discuss and ask questions regarding the 2024 Annual Report and the Corona Police Department's funding, acquisition, or use of military equipment.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

There is no financial impact from the adoption of this Ordinance. Any future equipment or vehicle purchases would be in adherence with this Ordinance and would be addressed through council action or the normal budget process.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:**

This action is exempt pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the Guidelines for the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), which states that a project is exempt from CEQA if the activity is covered by the commonsense exemption that CEQA applies only to projects that have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. This action simply acknowledges the submission and public release of the 2023 Annual Report and renews Ordinance 3347, and there is no possibility that adopting this Resolution will have a significant effect on the environment. Therefore, no environmental analysis is required.

**PREPARED BY:** SKIP SHATFORD, POLICE LIEUTENANT

**REVIEWED BY:** ROBERT NEWMAN, CHIEF OF POLICE

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Exhibit 1 – Resolution No. 2025-016, including Corona Police Department 2024 Annual Military

2. Exhibit 2 – Police Department Policy 709 (Military Equipment)
3. Exhibit 3 – Ordinance No. 3347