

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA TOPIC

Resolution authorizing execution of an agreement with ProForce Law Enforcement for the purchase of firearms, in an amount not to exceed \$437,742.24, plus applicable taxes.

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Bellevue Police Department

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**ACTION**

This Resolution authorizes the execution of an agreement with ProForce Law Enforcement for the purchase of firearms, not to exceed \$437,742.24.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 10517

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The Bellevue Police Department adopted the Sig Sauer P320 pistol as its standard duty, department-issued firearm in 2018. The department issues a primary firearm to all commissioned officers. Doing this ensures consistency in training, maintenance, and inventory of the Department's primary service firearm. The Department is now replacing the Sig Sauer P320 with the Heckler & Koch (HK) VP9 model of firearm as its standard duty, department-issued firearm in response to statewide changes impacting the Department's operation.

On October 17, 2024, the department was notified that, effective immediately, the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission (WSCJTC) was prohibiting the use of the Sig Sauer P320 in their agency owned or contracted training facilities until further notice. On February 24, 2025, the WSCJTC indefinitely banned the P320 and additional Sig Sauer firearm models (M17, and M18) from all properties owned or leased by WSCJTC as well as all sponsored training and special event facilities both owned or leased (Attached).

This decision affected multiple police agencies in Washington State that issue the Sig Sauer models as their duty firearms. Since participation in WSCJTC training is essential for police in Washington State, this ban has created a prohibitive barrier for Bellevue Police Officers to receive required and elective trainings as well as participate in events such as academy graduations. All police recruits are required to complete the Basic Law Enforcement Academy at the WSCJTC, including firearm training, but are now unable to do so with their standard, department-issued firearm due to the prohibition. As an interim measure, to prevent the disruption of the BPD's new hire training and staffing, the Department purchased a small number of firearms for new recruits to use temporarily during their BLEA training and to allow the uniformed attendance of command staff at WSCJTC events.

Since all versions of the Sig Sauer P320 are now prohibited from WSCJTC properties, hosted trainings, and sponsored events, the department is faced with a difficult decision to switch out its department-issued firearm system. Despite our continued belief in the reliability and safety of our weapons, the

Department cannot sustainably continue to retrain officers on a different firearm system just to attend the Academy, mandatory WSCJTC trainings, or events hosted at WSCJTC facilities. Consistency and safety are key for all firearms training, and the need to switch weapons and retrain between their Academy training and deployment onto the street creates an additional disadvantage for our new police recruits. Immediately upon learning of the initial temporary ban on the Sig Sauer P320, Bellevue Police staff began testing several firearms in anticipation of the WSCJTC's decision becoming permanent. Prior to the adoption of the P320 in 2018, the Bellevue Police Department issued the Heckler and Koch (HK) P30 as their duty firearm. The result of the testing was to return to the HK brand and select the HK VP9 as the new department-issued firearm.

The Bellevue Police Department is requesting approval to use \$397,947 to \$437,742.24 of existing forfeiture funds to replace all Sig P320 firearms and accompanying equipment with HK VP9s with accompanying equipment. The fiscal range in this estimate is a result of possible tariff implications disclosed by the distributor. The current Sig P320 firearms will be sent to the firearms distributor as part of the purchase process. The expectation from the department is that once the HK firearms are delivered, training will be completed by all officers, and the HK pistol will be fully deployed in the field by the end of 2025.

The department is continuing to work with other cities to address our concerns regarding the decision made by the WSCJTC as well as the process used to make the decision. The department believes that implementing the change to the HK firearm model is necessary for continued smooth operation of the Department and is the most effective and productive path forward while ensuring our officers maintain the high levels of training, professionalism, and safety that are integral to the Bellevue Police Department.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

Per the Guide to Equitable Sharing for State, Local, and Tribal Law Enforcement Agencies, purchasing firearms and paying the overtime and related benefits of current sworn and non-sworn law enforcement personnel involved in law enforcement operations using shared funds are permissible.

Fiscal Impact

Estimated project cost of \$397,947.49 to \$437,742.24 for equipment purchase as well as training time necessary to deploy a new duty pistol will be paid for using existing forfeiture funds. There is no anticipated impact on the Police Department General Fund Adopted Budget for 2025-2026.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing execution of an agreement with ProForce Law Enforcement for the purchase of firearms, in an amount not to exceed \$437,742.24, plus applicable taxes.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Quote 717657 from ProForce Law Enforcement
- B. Notice from Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission dated October 17, 2024
- C. Notice from Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission dated February 24, 2025
- D. Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission Sig Sauer P320 Pistol Report dated February 2025.

Proposed Resolution No. 10517

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

N/A