

Robles, Sandra

From: William M. Paparian
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2026 8:30 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse; cityclerk; Jomsky, Mark
Subject: Re: Agenda Item AR 10 – Notification of Intent to Acquire 2008 International MaxxPro Armored Personnel Carrier through the LESO 1033 Program

[⚠] **CAUTION:** This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you **know** the content is safe. Report phish using the Phish Alert Button (PAB). For more information about the PAB view article "KB0011474" on the DoIT portal.

Mayor Gordo and Councilmembers:

I am writing as a former Mayor of Pasadena to share a few thoughts on the Police Department's notification of its intent to acquire a 2008 International MaxxPro armored personnel carrier through the federal LESO 1033 Program.

I served on the Pasadena City Council from 1987 to 1999, including two years as Mayor, and have remained active in the community since then. As a Marine Corps veteran and a longtime resident of East Pasadena, I have always valued both strong public safety and the open, deliberative process that keeps residents informed and involved in decisions that affect our city. That perspective is what brings me to this item.

I appreciate the work of Chief Harris and the department, and I support the goal of ensuring our officers have appropriate protective equipment for high-risk situations. The presentation's points about operational demand, mutual aid, and preparations for the 2028 Games are understandable. At the same time, I wanted to raise a procedural question that may be worth a closer look before the transfer moves forward.

Under Government Code section 7072, the annual military equipment report is supposed to note any intention to acquire additional equipment in the coming year. The department's 2025–2026 report was posted in July, reviewed by the Community Police Oversight Commission and Public Safety Committee, and presented to the Council on September 29—just three weeks ago. This vehicle was not listed as anticipated equipment in that report. I understand the department only learned of its availability on October 7 and that surplus opportunities can be unpredictable. Still, the annual process is the main way AB 481 builds in time for public and Council consideration of new additions. The department's Policy 711 also reflects the need for governing-body approval before requesting or acquiring military equipment through programs like LESO.

The department already has a 2010 Lenco BearCat in service under the existing policy. Looking at recent annual reports, many of its deployments appear to have been for training, community events, and contingency positioning. Pasadena has some history with this type of surplus vehicle as well: two MRAPs were acquired through the same program in 2014, one was returned after disclosure issues, and the remaining vehicle was later decommissioned. A 2008 MaxxPro may also bring practical questions about size, maintenance, and everyday usability in our city that were not part of the recent annual review.

I would respectfully encourage the Council to seek a bit more information before authorizing the transfer, including:

How this vehicle fits with the annual reporting process that just concluded on September 29;
A breakdown of recent BearCat deployments that distinguishes operational high-risk uses from training, community, and contingency deployments; and
Estimated ongoing costs for maintenance, storage, training, and outfitting, along with confirmation that the acquisition aligns with the requirements of Government Code sections 7071 and 7072.

I offer these comments in the spirit of supporting both public safety and the transparency AB 481 is intended to provide. Thank you for your consideration and for your continued service to Pasadena.

Respectfully,

William M. Paparian
Former Mayor of Pasadena

Acquisition of this MaxxPro Armored Personnel Carrier (APC) **MRAP (Mine-Resistant Ambush-Protected)** vehicle would violate AB 481. (And we don't want it)

AB 481 was enacted to curtail law enforcement's culture and practice of acquiring military equipment without the public's & local governing body's prior notice, oversight or consent.

Pasadena PD has historically done just that. Being an informational FYI item signals we are repeating the past. Where's the policy? The ordinance? The community engagement?

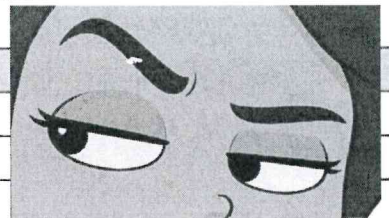
The PPD presentation states:

- **Public Notice:** PPD has maintained its required Notice of Intent to Acquire on its Military Equipment webpage since May 2024.

Is PPD referring to this May 8, 2024 letter? **Really, this is their "Notice to Acquire"?!**

The Pasadena Police Department may request the below controlled property items from the Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO), or other Federal source:

Controlled Property Description	
Aircraft accessories, components, misc.	
Aircraft repair parts / components	
Aircraft, Rotary wing	
Armored Vehicle	Kinda vague. Kinda meaningless.



The PPD presentation states:

- **AB 481 Compliance:** In June 2022, City Council approved PPD's Military Equipment Use Policy, authorizing qualifying equipment categories, including armored vehicles

Sorry, no. Notice to purchase an *MRAP* has never appeared in any of the PPD AB 481 reports.

MRAPs are unpopular. None of the neighboring cities have an MRAP. Not Glendale, Not Burbank, Not Long Beach, Not Anaheim, not CHP.

Pasadena had MRAPs. The City had PPD return them in 2014 due to public backlash just like many other cities did at the time, including Davis, San Jose, San Diego USD, Los Angeles USD.

Recall that in 2020, dozens of police agencies deployed armored vehicles against the public during George Floyd protests. Let's not go back, let's not further militarize PPD. Thanks, but no tanks.

Yadi

Pasadena City Council Meeting

October 20, 2026

10. Armored Personnel Carrier - MRAP (Mine-Resistant Ambush-Protected Vehicle)

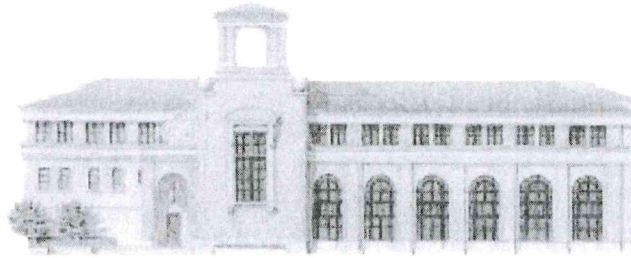
10/20/2026

Item 10

PASADENA POLICE DEPARTMENT



GENE HARRIS
CHIEF OF POLICE



207 N. GARFIELD AVENUE
PASADENA, CA 91101
(626) 744-4241

May 8, 2024

SUBJECT: Notification to Civilian Governing Body and Local Community

On May 25, 2022, Presidential Executive Order (EO) 14074 "Advancing Effective, Accountable Policing and Criminal Justice Practices to Enhance Public Trust and Public Safety" was signed.

In accordance with EO 14074 (Section 12), State, Tribal, local, and Territorial Law Enforcement agencies (LEAs) must:

- 1) Notify their Civilian Governing Body (CGB) (*i.e., City Council, County Government, or other local governing body*) of its intent to request property from Federal sources (to include Federal funds or grants).
- 2) Notify the Local Community of its request for property transfers, purchases from Federal funds, agencies, or subcontractors (including existing transfer contracts or grants).

The Pasadena Police Department may request the below controlled property items from the Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO), or other Federal source:

Controlled Property Description
Aircraft accessories, components, misc.
Aircraft repair parts / components
Aircraft, Rotary wing
Armored Vehicle
Night Vision Devices
Night Vision Goggles
Range Finder, Laser
Range Finder-Target Designator, Laser

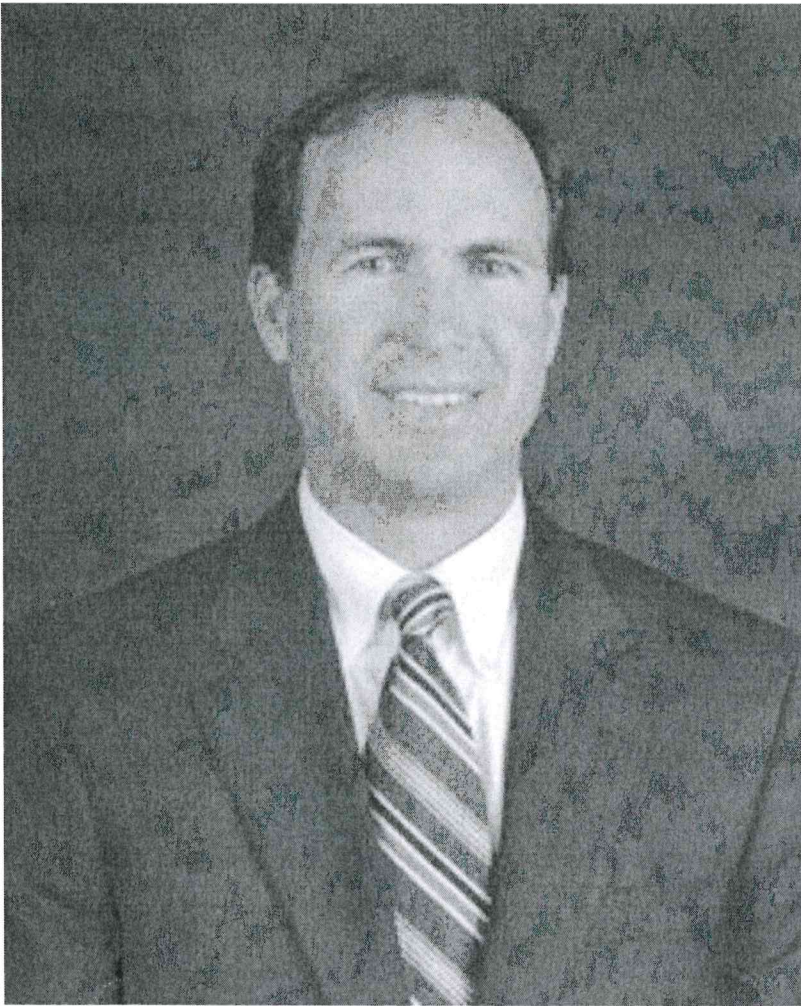
Pursuant to EO 14074 (Section 12), this memo fulfills the requirement to notify the Civilian Governing Body (CGB) and Local Community of my agency's intent to request the controlled property items identified in the list above.

Eugene Harris
Chief of Police,
Pasadena Police Department

https://www.pasadenaweekly.com/imported/thanks-but-no-tanks/article_b66835fa-0631-5eee-a010-ddb5126bb184.html

Thanks, But No Tanks

Oct 14, 2014



Although it has no plans to get rid of one it already has, Pasadena police will return another armored vehicle, one that is designed to withstand explosive devices and ambushes.

"The Fire and Police chiefs and I are in agreement that the MRAP [Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected] vehicle that was received by the city from the US military will be returned," City manager Michael Beck wrote in an email to the Pasadena Weekly.

ADVERTISING

"We had the opportunity earlier this week to review the proposed emergency medical support objectives this vehicle was anticipated to be used for and determined the vehicle could not appropriately fulfill them," Beck wrote. "I do not yet have the details of when or how the vehicle will be repatriated, but it will not be used by the city for any purpose."

The city obtained the MRAP vehicle last year through the US Department of Defense's Excess Property Program, also known as program 1033, which allows police departments to obtain military equipment.

More than 12,000 MRAP vehicles were deployed during the Iraq War and the war in Afghanistan. Weighing between 14 and 18 tons and standing nine-feet high, the vehicles cost the military between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000 apiece.

Under the Defense Department's Excess Property Program, the vehicles are sometimes given away for free. For instance, last year the San Diego Unified School District received an 18-ton MRAP for free and kept it. Officials there even paid \$5,000 to move it, according to a recent report on National Public Radio (NPR).

The program came under fire after the riots in Ferguson, Missouri, last summer sparked by the officer-involved shooting death of unarmed teenager Michael Brown. During the riots, police

responded by using MRAPs and military grade weapons against protesters.

Critics said the response by police was too extreme, resulting in a national conversation about militarization of police departments across the country. In San Diego, officials told NPR they would probably never use their MRAP.

City officials said that the MRAP would have been used to help get first responders to emergency situations like the mass shooting on Summit Avenue that occurred in June.

“It could have been used as a shield to safely carry paramedics and equipment into the area to give aid to the gunshot victims even as the shooter continued to fire his high-powered automatic weapon,” Beck wrote.

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Daniel James
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2026 11:10 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Cc: Rivas, Jessica
Subject: Public comment on October 20, 2026 City Council Meeting, agenda item 10

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Council,

I am fully opposed to the Police Department acquiring another military vehicle. The proposed armored personnel carrier vehicle is unnecessary and further militarizes the City's police without any grounded requirements.

The Police Department is positioning the acquisition as an urgent opportunity that cannot even wait for the CPOC to review the matter. This urgency is very concerning on its own.

I urge the council to push back on this acquisition. I don't want to see this vehicle rolling down our streets.

--

Daniel James (he/him)

RECEIVED

2020 OCT 20 PM 1:16

CITY CLERK
CITY OF PASADENA

I urge City Council to stop the ongoing militarization of the Pasadena Police Department. The Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle that PPD wants to acquire was designed for war in Iraq and Afghanistan, not community policing. It's way past time to remind Chief Harris that he is no longer in the Marines and that Pasadena is not a war zone with land mines and IEDs. We just had a military exercise at St Luke's that PPD knew about long before informing City Council. Now we have the PPD wanting to become an even more militarized police force. No matter how much they obfuscate the facts, an MRAP is a military vehicle designed for military use in war zones. PPD are not the military and Pasadena is not a war zone.

The distinction between military and police is steadily disappearing as police departments – including PPD – becoming more militarized every year. Meanwhile, federal agents are terrorizing immigrants (and others) all over the country. In many states, police departments have 287(g) agreements with the Department of Homeland Security and directly assist DHS agents. In Pasadena, the community has raised serious concerns about PPD indirectly aiding and abetting ICE. Chief Harris has made it abundantly clear that PPD will do nothing to protect community members from federal agents who are operating outside the law. Given this context, how is the community going to respond to having PPD driving around in a military vehicle (“gifted” from the federal government) designed for a war zone?

Pasadena residents are not adversaries who need intimidation. Acquiring the MRAD will result in a further loss of trust from that community at a time when PPD is trying to create a more positive image. We need an image of community, not combat. We remember Ferguson and all the other cities where police departments have made military responses to peaceful protests.

I also encourage you to ask Chief Harris about all the very relevant information that is not included in the “AB481 Acquisition of Armored Personnel Carrier through the Law Enforcement Support Office” report to be presented at Council tonight.

Does PPD Expect Land Mines and IEDs in Pasadena?

The report notes that the available vehicle is a 2008 International MaxxPro rescue Armored Personnel Carrier (APC) but fails to mention that it is a Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle that was specifically designed to withstand the impact of land mines, improvised explosive device (IED) attacks and ambushes in Iraq and Afghanistan. This is a significantly different type of APC than the Lenco Bearcat. The vehicle was designed as part of the US military's Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle program, which was led by the US Marine Corps. The Bearcat and MaxxPro are both APCs, but the Bearcat is not an MRAP.

Pasadena Previously had MRAPs and Got Rid of Them Amid Controversy

Pasadena previously obtained two MRAP vehicles through the Department of Defense surplus program. The city initially disclosed acquisition of only one vehicle (acquired in 2009), but in 2014 Pasadena Weekly exposed that PPD had acquired a second vehicle had without the knowledge of City Council. City Council responded by directing PPD to return it. Then City Manager Michael Beck told *Pasadena Weekly* that the Police and Fire Chiefs “had the opportunity earlier this week to review the proposed emergency medical support objectives this vehicle was anticipated to be used for and determined the vehicle could not appropriately fulfill them.” The other MRAP was also decommissioned after concerns about the militarization of local policing. None of this is mentioned in the report prepared for City Council.

Are We Being Set Up for Another “Helicopter Surprise”?

Something can be acquired for free but also have very high maintenance or other costs. How much will the MRAP cost to maintain, operate and store? Will we have another helicopter surprise when City Council is asked to pay for a new building to store its new acquisition? PPD needs to disclose information on the cost of ownership, not just the acquisition cost.

No Evidence Presented about the Benefits

The report does not include any evidence to support claims about the benefits of acquiring an MRAP (or other military equipment). “It’s free” is not an evidence-based case. Police departments have been acquiring MRAPs and other military equipment for decades, yet there is no data-based evidence to support claims that militarization saves lives or that demilitarization risks them. Instead, there are empirical studies showing that police use of military vehicles had no impact on crime rates or officer casualties and that more military equipment increases civilian deaths.

Police use of equipment designed for war zones makes us LESS safe.

Opaque “Transparency” May Be in Violation of AB 481

The report asserts that a letter buried on the PPD website fulfills the statutory requirement to provide advance notice of intent to purchase military equipment covered by AB 481. Few people would know what the letter refers to even if they somehow manage to find it since it is confusingly listed under the link to the AB 481 policy. The letter is not “policy” - it’s a list posted to supposedly fulfill statutory requirements - but it appears under the policy link. The heading is also a legalese “Executive Order 14074 Notice”, not resident-friendly language. Burying it on the website two years ago falls far short of any standard of transparency and may not meet the statutory requirements of AB 481. The letter also does not appear in a search for “MRAP” from the City of Pasadena website.

PPD kept its acquisition of an MRAP from local elected officials in the past (which, again, no one would know from the report). Did Council members receive a copy of the letter when it was posted in 2024? Did Council members who joined Council after the letter was first issued also get a copy of it? These questions seem especially relevant after PPD knew about the planned military training at St Luke’s for months but waited until just hours before operations started before informing City Council.

I urge City Council to put a stop to the further militarization of PPD. Pasadena residents are not adversaries who need intimidation. Acquiring the MRAD will result in a further loss of trust from that community at a time when PPD is trying to create a more positive image. We need an image of community, not combat.

Humaira Afzal, PhD
Pasadena resident

AB 481 - Military Equipment Policy

AB 481 - Military Equipment Policy

AB 481 - Military Equipment Use Policy & Inventory List

Assembly Bill AB 481, codified as Government Code Section 7070 et seq., went into effect on January 1, 2022 and requires law enforcement agencies that seek to continue use of military type equipment, accomplish the following by May 1, 2022:

- Draft a military equipment use policy that describes each piece of military equipment, including quantity, capabilities, purchase cost, purpose, authorized uses, and fiscal impact for each piece of equipment;
- Seek approval of the policy from their governing body by ordinance; and,
- Make publicly available on the agency's website any proposed or final military equipment use policy for as long as the military equipment is available for use.

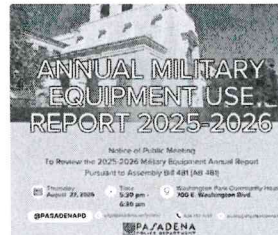
After posting the policy on the agency's website for a minimum of 30 days, the governing body may then approve the policy by ordinance at a regular meeting in order for the agency to continue using the military equipment.

Thereafter, on an annual basis, the governing body will review the military equipment use policy, renew the ordinance at a regular meeting, and receive an annual report prepared by the law enforcement agency to include how any equipment was used in the prior year, a summary of any complaints or concerns received, the results of any internal audits, policy violations, total annual cost, quantities and new acquisitions planned in the next year.

On June 20, 2022 Pasadena City Council adopted an ordinance approving of the attached Military Equipment Use Policy.

- 2025-2026 Annual Military Equipment Report
- 2024-2025 Annual Military Equipment Report
- 2023-2024 Annual Military Equipment Use Report
- PPD's Military Equipment Use Policy (Policy 711)
- Executive Order 14074 Notice

Per Government Code 7070(d)(7) - For a law enforcement agency, the procedures by which members of the public may register complaints or concerns or submit questions about the use of each specific type of military equipment, and how the law enforcement agency will ensure that each complaint, concern, or question receives a response in a timely manner.



Thanks, But No Tanks

Oct 14, 2014



f x e p u b

Although it has no plans to get rid of one it already has, Pasadena police will return another armored vehicle, one that is designed to withstand explosive devices and ambushes.

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Under the Defense Department's Excess Property Program, the vehicles are sometimes given away for free. For instance, last year the San Diego Unified School District received an 18-ton MRAP for free and kept it. Officials there even paid \$5,000 to move it, according to a recent report on National Public Radio (NPR).

The program came under fire after the riots in Ferguson, Missouri, last summer sparked by the officer-involved shooting death of unarmed teenager Michael Brown. During the riots, police responded by using MRAPs and military grade weapons against protesters.

Critics said the response by police was too extreme, resulting in a national conversation about militarization of police departments across the country. In San Diego, officials told NPR they would probably never use their MRAP.

City officials said that the MRAP would have been used to help get first responders to emergency situations like the mass shooting on Summit Avenue that occurred in June.

"It could have been used as a shield to safely carry paramedics and equipment into the area to give aid to the gunshot victims even as the shooter continued to fire his high-powered automatic weapon," Beck wrote.

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Dar Azimi
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2026 1:56 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Comment re: Pasadena City Council Meeting 10/20/26

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Hello,

My name is Dariush Azimi and I am a resident of Pasadena, living in the Madison Heights area. I'm writing to express my strong opposition to Agenda Item 10 of tonight's meeting: **REPORT ON AB481 ACQUISITION OF ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIER THROUGH THE LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT OFFICE (LESO) (PPD)**

I strongly urge the Council to oppose PPD's acquisition of this vehicle, on the following grounds:

- PPD has no demonstrable need for an armored vehicle that is typically used for military deployment in active combat situations
- PPD's community-facing image would be actively tarnished by the acquisition of such a vehicle
- Budget would need to be allocated to the maintenance and upkeep of this vehicle that could otherwise be used by PPD to fund initiatives that provide more value to the community and the department

Our country, and Los Angeles as a whole especially, has experienced escalated tensions between communities and LEO agencies in recent months. The acquisition of this vehicle could potentially inflame those tensions here in Pasadena and send a hostile and aggressive message to Pasadena's residents. While I recognize that the acquisition would be free of cost, that value is outweighed by the detrimental repercussions such an acquisition would enable.

For these reasons, I again strongly urge Council to oppose PPD's acquisition of this vehicle.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Dariush Azimi

10/20/2026
Item 10

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Simon Gibbons
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2026 2:39 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Council agenda item 10 - acquisition of military equipment
Attachments: 01-Staff_Report_Armored_Vehicle_Purchase.pdf

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Mayor Gordo and members of the Council

Pasadena PD proposes to acquire a second MaxxPro armored personnel carrier to supplement its existing Bearcat.

The presentation from PPD identified a key benefit of enhanced APC availability, and claims on its sixth page that this will be cost-effective.

Neither of these claims stand up:

- 1) PPD notes that its Bearcat has been used 100 times, while outside agencies provided additional support eleven times. this suggests an 11% improvement in capability, for a doubling of operational costs and impacts.
- 2) In fact the operational cost situation is far worse than that. In the attached document, South Lake Tahoe PD explains why the early 2000s MaxxPro is expensive and difficult to maintain, and actually requests a shift to the BearCat model for that reason.

In summary, the benefits are small, and the running expenses are high. Pasadena faces intense fiscal pressure, and citizens are rightly concerned about our police department's casual approach to privacy issues like Flock cameras, and its cavalier attitude to safety after an officer-on-officer shooting was described as "horseplay".

This is not the time to write a blank check for acquiring military vehicles.

Yours,

Simon Gibbons



City of South Lake Tahoe

Report to City Council

Meeting Date: November 4, 2025

Title: Purchase of Armored Vehicle from Lenco

Location: Police Department

Responsible Staff Member: Lieutenant Scott Crivelli (707) 532-0100

Background: In 2013, the Police Department acquired a MRAP (Mine Resistant Armor Protected) vehicle from the military at no cost to the city. The MRAP has served the police department well, however, due to its age, lack of serviceability, and manufacture support, staff is looking for authorization to replace the MRAP with a law enforcement specific armored vehicle.

Issue and Discussion: After taking possession of the MRAP in 2013, the police department's capability to rapidly and safely respond to armed threats or protected rescues in our community greatly increased. Over the course of 12 years, the MRAP has been used on countless occasions to carry out different types of missions.

An armored police vehicle provides protection for our personnel and members of the public when faced with high-risk events. Most commonly, the MRAP is used as a vehicle for our SWAT team during events when a subject refuses to comply with law enforcement, is barricaded, and potential exists for the subject to be armed. Also, an armored vehicle allows execution of other life saving missions. For example, during a heavy flood, the MRAP was used to trek through water flooded streets to get community members into their homes for the retrieval of needed medication. An armored vehicle would be used during an active shooter event to either evacuate people from the danger area, or transport emergency personnel into a scene not yet deemed safe.

The MRAP has reached the end of its service life. The military has decommissioned the MRAP, which creates a serviceability issue. The MRAP is a specialty-built vehicle by a company named Navistar. Service parts are virtually non-existent. When staff has reached out for service support from Navistar, they refuse to help as they deem the information "classified." Our motor pool has spent approximately \$48,355 to date conducting repairs on the MRAP. Most notably, the brunt of the cost is labor time for our mechanics to figure out repairs on their own, as there is no support. With the lack of available parts, we are one broken part away from the MRAP being inoperable for good. A detective within the police department spent his time in the Army as a heavy equipment / diesel mechanic. He worked on MRAPs in the military. Based on his experience, MRAPs do not slowly deteriorate over time. Rather one day, the MRAP will have multiple unrepairable issues and will be permanently inoperable. This would dramatically decrease the police department's ability to safely respond to high risk events without the protection for our staff members and/or members of our community.

Additionally, the MRAP, has operational limitation issues which are remedied by the proposed replacement in this staff report. First, the MRAP engine brake was disabled by the military prior to it being released to the police department. Due to its weight and size, the MRAP cannot be safely driven out of the basin on its airbrakes alone. Staff was unable to re-enable the engine brake since Navistar would not release any classified information. Second, the MRAP requires the operator to possess a commercial driver's license. The police department currently only has one member with a CDL. Therefore, we must rely on either a properly endorsed Firefighter, or motor pool mechanic to drive the MRAP. Third, interior space in the MRAP is extremely limited. The replacement proposed in this report offers much more space for personnel and rescues. Lastly, the police department has been wanting to replace the MRAP with the proposed vehicle in this staff report for some time, however, we are aware of the cost involved and have prioritized money elsewhere. Since funding is available without any impact to the general fund, now is the time we are seeking authorization to replace the MRAP.

The vehicle which staff recommends to replace the MRAP is made by industry leading Lenco Industries. Lenco makes specialized armored vehicles. The model recommended by staff is called the Lenco Bearcat G3 Pro. This model is being used by a large amount of law enforcement agencies across the nation. Our neighboring agencies, EDSO and DCSO have this model Bearcat and speak very highly of its reliability and quality. Lenco takes the chassis of a 4WD Ford F-550 and creates an armored vehicle. The Bearcat sits on a commonly used chassis and utilizes the Ford 6.7 Powerstroke diesel motor. The Bearcat comes with a 3-year powertrain warranty from Ford and 3-year warranty from all components added by Lenco. After warranty expiration, parts are common, easily accessible, and the powertrain is known by our motor pool mechanics. Additionally, motor pool has a certified Ford Master Mechanic.

An operator of the Bearcat needs only a Class C driver's license. The Bearcat can be safely driven off the hill if needed for mutual aid requests. The Bearcat, having a much smaller overall size, is significantly more maneuverable within the urban environment in which we operate. The interior of the Bearcat has ample space and allows a significant number of people to comfortably fit inside.

The Bearcat comes completely outfitted from the factory with all vital components for law enforcement operations and rescue missions. Some components include but are not limited to: red and blue emergency lighting, siren, PA system, 4 independently controlled spotlights, 360 degree camera system, IR camera, bench seating, overwatch hatch, and run flat off road tires.

If Council approves the purchase of the Lenco Bearcat, Lenco will begin production. Production time is currently 12-18 months. Once the vehicle is completed, two police department staff members and one motor pool mechanic will go to the Lenco facility (Pittsfield, MA) for a delivery orientation from Lenco. Lenco will then ship the vehicle from Massachusetts to South Lake Tahoe. Once the vehicle arrives, staff will be returning the MRAP to the military.

Financial Implications: The expense of the vehicle purchase recommended in this staff report will have no impact on the City General Fund. The total purchase price with tax, shipping and costs for sending 3 city employees to Lenco's factory will be \$433,963.88.

Lenco Bearcat = \$378,330.00
Shipping = \$15,200.00
CA 8.75% Tax = \$34,433.88
Employee Travel Expenses = \$6000.00
Total = \$433,963.88

Funds for this purchase will partially come from AB3229 COPs funding received from the state, designated for front line law enforcement. The current amount budgeted in COPs account 231020110-46110 (Machinery and Equipment) is \$314,000.00, primarily utilizing the prior years' available fund balance.

Staff is requesting authorization to transfer \$120,000 from the Police vehicle replacement account (21102110-46130, funded by Prop 172 Safety Sales Tax) into the COPs account, 231020110-46110 to cover the remaining cost of this vehicle purchase.

The purchase of this armored vehicle is authorized by Lenco's Government GSA cooperative agreement. Contract #GS-07F-169DA, valid 8/23/16 – 8/22/26.

Environmental Considerations: This is not a 'project' subject to review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under CEQA guidelines section 15378(b)(2) (continuing administrative or maintenance activities, such as purchases for supplies).

Policy Implications: The purchase of these vehicles supports the following strategic priorities:

- Priority 3: Ensure Public Safety

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Samuel Gordon
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2026 2:54 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Item 10

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To city council,

The Pasadena police have absolutely no reason to have a mine resistant military vehicle. None. Stop the unnecessary militarization of our police. We need our police to be more focused on community engagement and non-police officer interventions, NOT enhanced military equipment for a police department who is tasked with protecting the community. This does not protect the community, in fact it does the opposite and pits the police against us.

Be sensible. Stop the further militarization of Pasadena PD. And while we're at it, end the Flock surveillance which is likely in violation of the 4th amendment of the constitution.

Sincerely,
Sam

10/20/2026
Item 10

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Gabriel Pontón
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2026 3:02 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: No MRAP Vehicles in Pasadena!

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Hello,

My name is Gabriel Pontón and I am a concerned citizen who was born, raised, and currently lives in Pasadena. I saw Chief Harris's letter notifying the Civilian Governing Body and Local Community that they intended to purchase a MaxxPro MRAP. This is not what we in Pasadena want in any way, shape, or form. To suggest that any activities (such as the peaceful protests happening around the city) within our city would need to be quelled or controlled with this military-grade, international tool of war is deeply alarming and unacceptable. I already have a distrust of the Pasadena Police Department, this acquisition would unequivocally deepen that distrust and fracture the community support for our police force. I am already greatly dissatisfied with Mayor Gordo's vision of a future Police/Surveillance State operating in Pasadena, but this has pushed me to actively seek his removal from office as soon as possible. Additionally, this would violate AB 481 which requires advanced community engagement. Please do not go through with this acquisition, for the safety of Pasadena residents (not to mention the city streets). We DO NOT WANT THEM.

Sincerely,
Gabriel Pontón

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Gabriel Pontón
Composer/Audio Engineer
Singer-Songwriter

10/20/2026
Item 10

From: Shaina Villalobos
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2026 3:16 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Public Comment – Agenda Item AR 10: Fiscal Concerns Regarding Armored Vehicle Acquisition

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Mayor Gordo and Councilmembers,

I am writing as a Pasadena resident to oppose the proposed acquisition of a second armored personnel carrier through the federal LESO 1033 Program.

Pasadena's budget forecasts a growing General Fund structural deficit, with operating shortfalls projected to worsen in the coming years. As the City faces increasingly difficult budget decisions, it must carefully scrutinize spending and prioritize limited resources. Acquiring a nearly 20-year-old armored vehicle at little or no upfront cost does not make it a cost-free investment for taxpayers.

The Police Department acknowledges that outfitting, modifications, and annual maintenance will create expenses, yet its presentation provides no itemized cost estimates. What will this vehicle cost to prepare, operate, maintain, store, and eventually replace? Where will these ongoing expenses fall within the budget, and what other priorities will compete for those dollars? Will police personnel need to be trained? That costs money that doesn't need to be spent.

The Department also reports more than 100 BearCat deployments since 2024, but provides no breakdown distinguishing actual high-risk incidents from training, community events, or standby deployments. How often has the existing vehicle been insufficient or unavailable when needed? Before investing in a second vehicle, the City should demonstrate why the existing BearCat and mutual-aid resources cannot adequately meet Pasadena's needs.

I am also concerned that this vehicle was not identified as anticipated equipment in the annual military equipment report presented to Council on September 29. While surplus opportunities may be time-sensitive, the availability of equipment should not take precedence over a thorough assessment of its necessity and long-term fiscal impact.

I urge the Council to oppose this acquisition as currently presented and require a clear demonstration of operational need and a transparent accounting of the vehicle's full lifecycle costs before proceeding. With the City's own financial forecasts pointing to growing structural deficits, responsible stewardship of public funds requires more than simply accepting equipment because it is available at a low initial cost.

Thank you for your consideration.

Shaina Villalobos

10/20/2026
Item 10