

COUNCIL MEETING
April 6, 2010

Honorable Mayor and Members
of the Torrance City Council
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Police – Approve a Change Order to San Diego Police Equipment for the purchase of academy training ammunition. Expenditure: \$8,000.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the Police Chief that Council authorize a change order to increase Purchase Order 2010-258 to San Diego Police Equipment from \$35,000 to a new total not to exceed \$43,000 for the purchase of academy training ammunition.

Funding

Funding is available in the Police Department Range Account.

BACKGROUND

The Police Department provides sworn personnel with the necessary firearms training so they can become proficient in their duties. Officers first receive firearms training in the police academy. In the academy, recruits fire an average of 4,000 rounds each, and additional ammunition is frequently needed for remedial range training. The Department has been purchasing .45 caliber ammunition for recruit use in the academy as it is the same ammunition used for Department firearms trainings and qualifications. However, due to limited availability and the first priority needs of the military, manufacturers are often delayed in completing .45 caliber ammunition orders. Ammunition demands of the Department are further impacted by increased hiring efforts. Hiring has increased to maintain staffing and to take advantage of available Los Angeles County academy classes, which have been reduced due to County budget constraints. Consequently, heightened demands on .45 caliber ammunition for academy recruits threatens to limit Department supplies for internal training and qualifications.

ANALYSIS

To avoid premature depletion of internal ammunition supplies, the Department's Range staff has identified 9mm ammunition as appropriate for academy use. 9mm ammunition is the same caliber of ammunition deployed by the U.S. military. Therefore, it is manufactured more frequently and is also less expensive than .45

caliber ammunition. Hence, recruits have and will be issued 9mm Glock model 17's for academy training. Converting from .45 caliber to 9mm ammunition will not compromise firearms training for the recruits as the caliber of ammunition fired has little bearing on the basic skills acquired in training. Weapons training will remain unchanged for recruits other than converting to the Department issued .45 caliber Glock model 21 during their one week of in-house handgun and rifle training prior to field deployment.

In an additional measure, the Department has converted from .223 to .22 caliber ammunition for use during patrol rifle training and qualifications. Conversion kits for Department rifles enables use of .22 caliber ammunition with the authorized rifle. The smaller caliber ammunition is far less expensive and meets the needs of Department weapons training and qualifications. The higher caliber .223 ammunition is imperative only during field deployment of the patrol rifle. This conversion has resulted in a cost savings to the Department that will support the increase in its existing purchase order for the acquisition of training ammunition for the Department's academy recruits.

The Department requests that existing purchase order 2010-258 to San Diego Police Equipment of San Diego, CA for ammunition be increased by \$8,000, for a new total not to exceed \$43,000.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN J. NEU
CHIEF OF POLICE

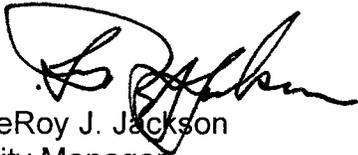


By Kent Sentinella
Administrative Analyst

CONCUR:



John J. Neu
Chief of Police



LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager