

Law Enforcement Equipment Use Policy

California Assembly Bill 481



CITY & COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Police Commission

February 01, 2023



California Assembly Bill 481, codified at Government Code sections 7070-7075, requires law enforcement agencies in California to obtain approval from the applicable governing body, of a Law Enforcement Use of Equipment Policy as specified, by ordinance. An ordinance is legislation that amends municipal codes and makes laws

Defines categories of certain types of law enforcement equipment
Requires California law enforcement agencies to submit a Use Policy relating to the AB 481 defined categories of equipment
Requires governing body review and approval of Use Policy by way of ordinance.
Ordinance was signed by Mayor: December 22, 2022
Ordinance Effective Date: January 22, 2023
Mandates Annual Review by Police Commission and BOS

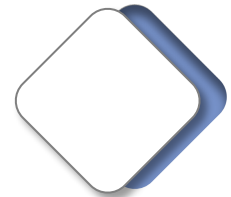
AB 481 Public Hearings

Between the date of submission in May 2022 and the final approval in December 2022, there were 11 public hearings.

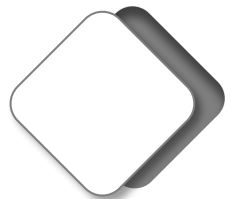
The Department captured over 43 policy recommendations through the public hearing process.



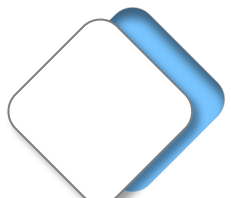
Required SFPD to publicly report how the AB 481 defined equipment is used. All equipment in AB 481 policy was acquired before January 2022.



No changes to current inventory. SFPD did not request funding or acquisition approvals through this ordinance.



Substantive changes: Authorized use of the Long-Range Acoustic Device (LRAD) and express prohibition for unmanned remotely piloted ground vehicles to be used as a lethal force option.

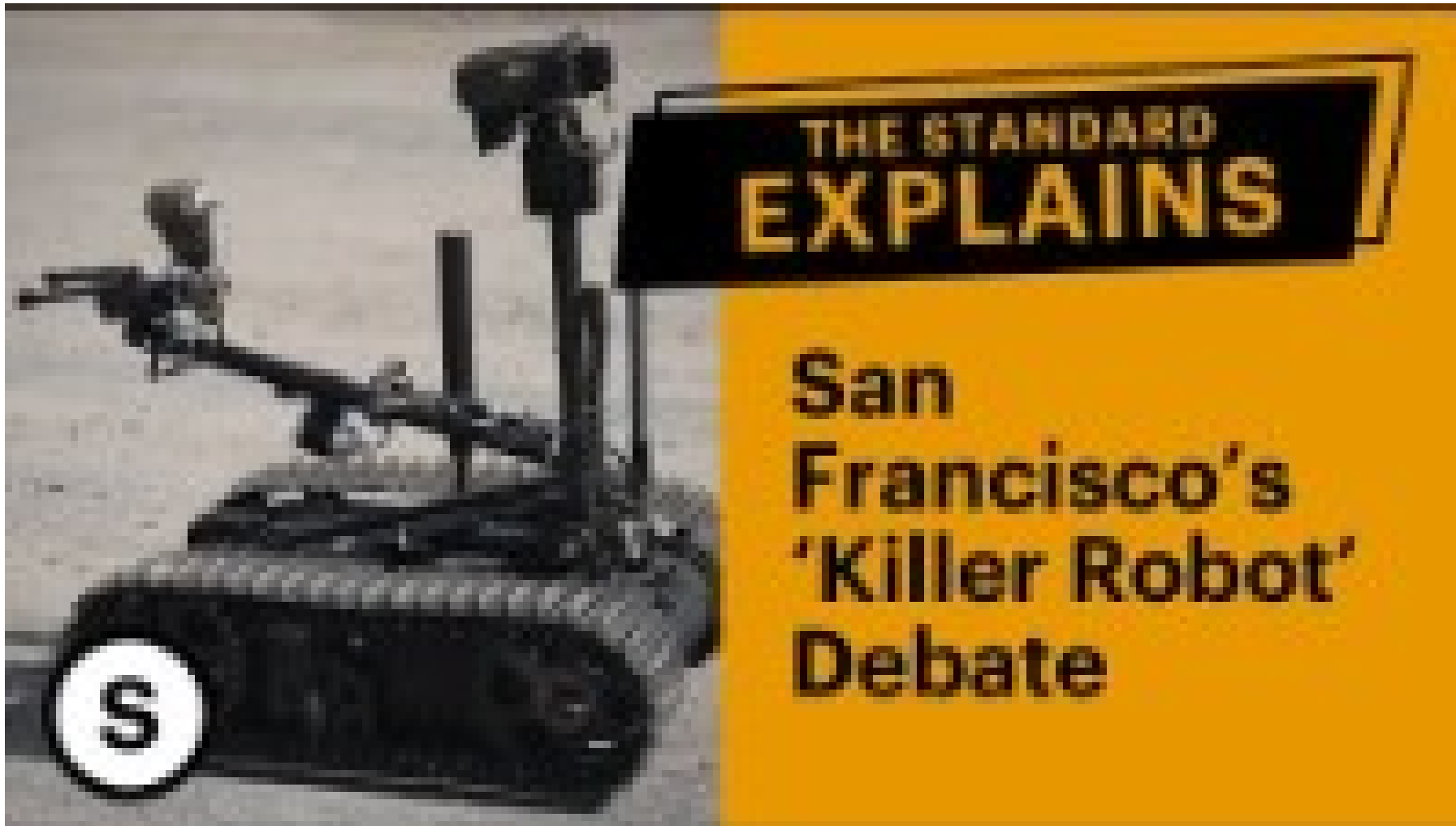


The Ordinance's passage impacts tactical unit orders which will be updated.

SFPD AB 481 Inventory Categories

Unmanned, remotely piloted, powered ground vehicles
Mine-resistant ambush-protected (MRAP) vehicles or armored personnel carriers
Wheeled vehicles that have a breaching or entry apparatus attached
Command and control vehicles that are either built or modified to facilitate operational control and direction during public safety units
Breaching apparatuses that are explosive in nature
Flashbang grenades and pepper balls, excluding standard, service-issued handheld pepper spray
Long-Range Acoustic Device (LRAD)
Specialized firearms less than .50 caliber with the exception of standard issue service weapons
Projectile launch platforms and their associated munitions: 40mm bean bag or rubber bullets

Unmanned Remotely Piloted Ground Vehicles in SFPD Inventory



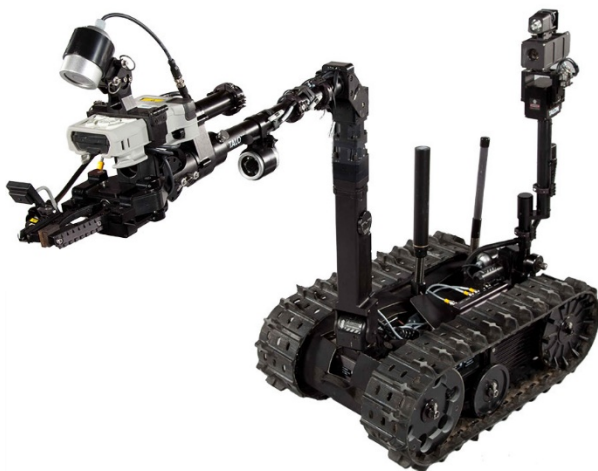
Unmanned Remotely Piloted Ground Vehicles in SFPD Inventory



Remotec F6A



QinetiQ DRAGON RUNNER



QinetiQ TALON



IRobotFirstLook

FAQS

- Are there plans to expand the current inventory?
- Are there plans to replace current equipment?
- If so, what's the projected cost and timeline?
- How does the department determine what equipment is considered “standard issue service weapon”?
- What is the current cost, including personnel, for maintenance of the existing AB 481 equipment?
- What is the Departments current position on using unmanned, remotely piloted, ground vehicles for lethal force options?
- How long has the Department owned AB 481 equipment?

Questions?

SAN FRANCISCO
POLICE DEPARTMENT