

ASSEMBLY BILL 481 COMPLIANCE

DRONE POLICY



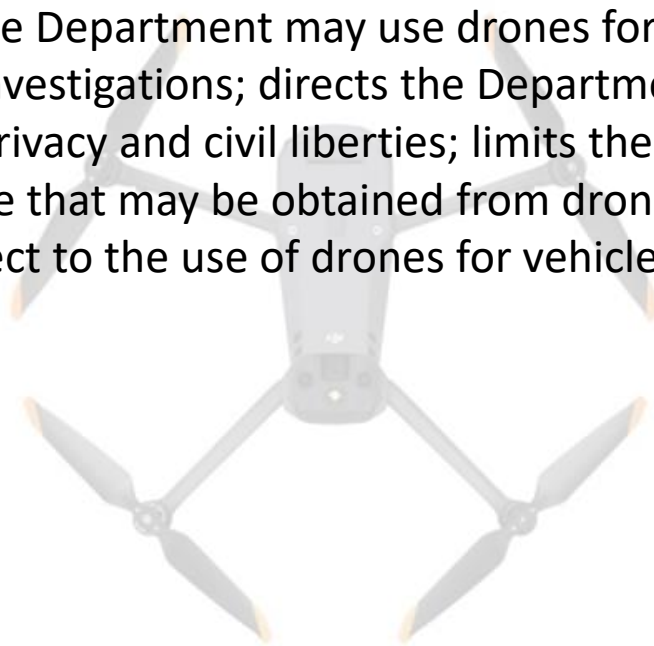
POLICE COMMISSION

OCTOBER 2, 2024



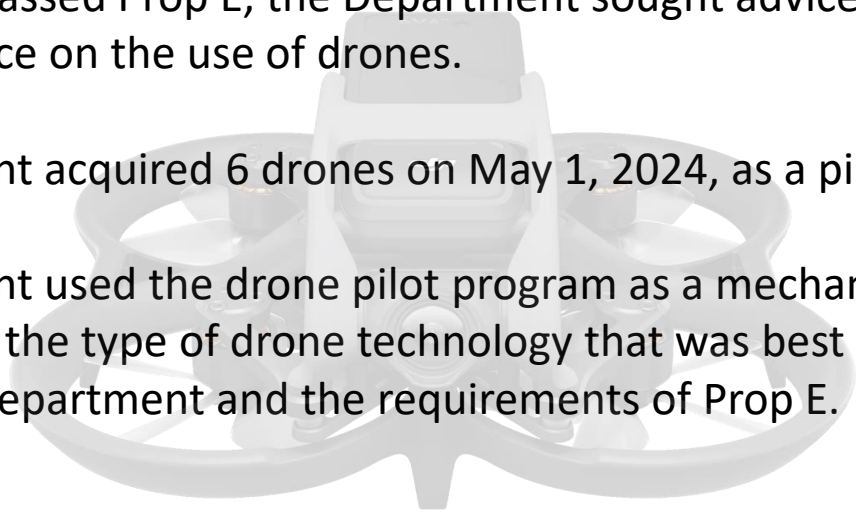
PROPOSITION E

- In March 2024, voters approved Prop E which authorized the Department to use drones along with or in lieu of vehicle pursuits (Admin. Code Sec. 96I.2(d)) and to assist with active criminal investigations (Admin. Code Sec. 96I.2(e)(2)).
- Prop E states that the Department may use drones for vehicle pursuits and for active criminal investigations; directs the Department to comply with City policies to protect privacy and civil liberties; limits the retention and sharing of any public footage that may be obtained from drones; and requires certain reporting with respect to the use of drones for vehicle pursuits.



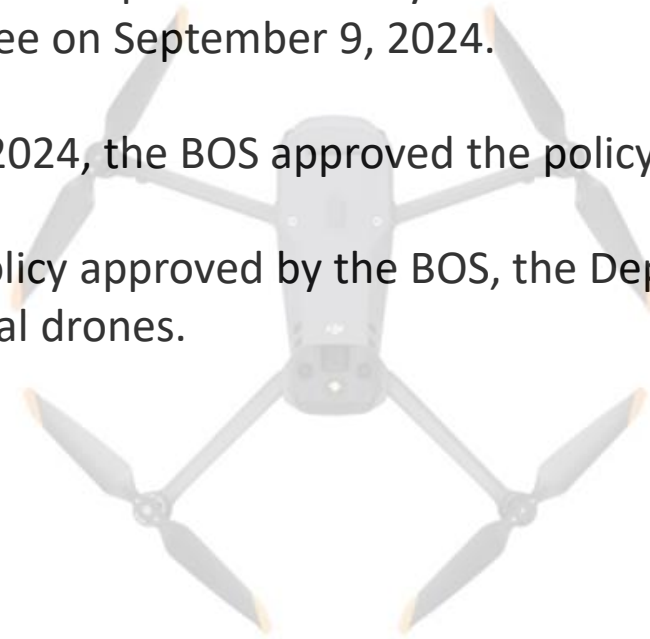
DRONE USE

- When Prop E was placed on the March 2024 ballot, the Department immediately consulted with the City Attorney's Office to discuss the impacts of the ballot measure.
- When voters passed Prop E, the Department sought advice from the City Attorney's Office on the use of drones.
- The Department acquired 6 drones on May 1, 2024, as a pilot program.
- The Department used the drone pilot program as a mechanism for understanding the type of drone technology that was best suited to meet the needs of the Department and the requirements of Prop E.



DRONE USE

- To expand the program, the Department submitted a funding request through the budget to the BOS and simultaneously submitted a drone policy to the BOS for approval.
- On June 4, 2024, the BOS placed a 30-day hold on the drone policy and moved it to Rules Committee on September 9, 2024.
- On September 24, 2024, the BOS approved the policy.
- Under the drone policy approved by the BOS, the Department is authorized to acquire 22 additional drones.



TIMELINE

- **March 5:** Election; Department consulted with City Attorney's Office on impacts of Prop E when the measure was placed on the ballot
- **April 2:** Election results certified; Prop E passed 54% (120,529) to 46% (102,288)
- **April 12:** Prop E in effect; Department continued consulting with City Attorney
- **May 1:** Drones procured
- **June 4:** Drone policy introduced by Mayor at BOS (assigned to Rules Committee with 30-day rule expiring July 4)
- **July:** Rules Committee hearings for November 2024 ballot measures and change in committee leadership
- **August:** BOS recess
- **September 9:** Rules Committee hearing (1st meeting after recess); policy continued to next meeting because Supervisor Peskin was not present
- **September 16:** Rules Committee referred policy to BOS with positive recommendation and amendments adding restrictions and data retention sections
- **September 17:** BOS first vote (9-2)
- **September 24:** BOS final vote (9-2)
- **October 4:** Ordinance enacted (expected date; policy becomes effective 30 days after enactment)

*This timeline does not include all discussions and pre-planning for the impacts of Prop E.

Questions?

