



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

July 24, 2018

Motion 15180

Proposed No. 2018-0253.1

Sponsors Gossett

1 A MOTION accepting a report describing the department
2 of adult and juvenile detention's progress toward providing
3 Tascrs to every gun-qualified officer in compliance with
4 Ordinance 18409, Section 55, as amended by Ordinance
5 18602, Section 29, Proviso P5.

6 WHEREAS, a 2017-2018 supplemental budget ordinance, Ordinance 18602,
7 Section 29, Proviso P5, which amended the 2017-2018 Biennial Budget Ordinance,
8 Ordinance 18409, Section 55, requires the executive to transmit an assessment report
9 describing the department of adult and juvenile detention's progress toward providing
10 Tasers to every gun-qualified officer, and a motion accepting the report, and

11 WHEREAS, Ordinance 18602, Section 29, Proviso P5, provides that \$400,000
12 shall not be expended or encumbered until the report required by the proviso is accepted,
13 and the motion acknowledging receipt of the reports is passed, and

14 WHEREAS, the council has reviewed the report submitted by the executive;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

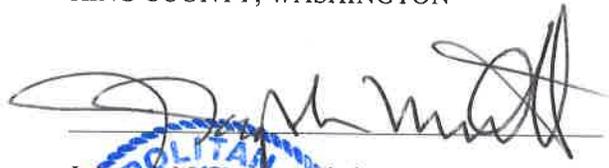
16 The report describing the department of adult and juvenile detention's progress
17

18 towards providing Tasers to every gun-qualified officer, which is Attachment A to this
19 motion, is hereby accepted in accordance with Ordinance 18602, Section 29, Proviso P5.
20

Motion 15180 was introduced on 7/9/2018 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 7/23/18, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn,
Mr. McDermott, Mr. Dembowski, Mr. Upthegrove, Ms. Kohl-Welles
and Ms. Balducci
No: 0
Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



J. Joseph McDermott, Chair

ATTEST:



Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council



Attachments: A. DAJD Report - Progress on Taser Procurement

Attachment A – 15180

DAJD Report – Progress on Taser Procurement in Compliance with Ordinance 18409, Section 55, as amended by Ordinance 18602, Section 29, Proviso P5

Introduction

The King County Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention (DAJD) has approximately 300 uniformed staff who are gun-qualified and able to transport inmates outside of the secure correctional facilities. Due to the inherent risks associated with these assignments, officers are trained in a variety of force options from verbal skills to the use of deadly force. One of the force options staff are trained in is the use of the X2 TASER. Industry-wide, the TASER is accepted as an effective less-lethal force option. Equipping officers with TASERs has proven to reduce the need for more injurious methods of controlling individuals in violent situations. In 2015, DAJD began purchasing X2 TASERs for corrections officers (and sergeants) with the goal of eventually providing one to every officer who is equipped with a firearm.

Budget Ordinance 18409, Section 55, as amended by Ordinance 18602, Section 29, Proviso P5 required the Executive to transmit an assessment report providing analysis and recommendations, to include an action plan to equip each gun-qualified officer with a TASER. This response includes:

- An assessment on the progress toward providing a TASER to every gun-qualified officer.
- Overview of the funding and procurement process for law enforcement officer equipment and progress made toward achieving a goal of having enough TASERs to provide one to every gun-qualified officer.
- Description of the funding needs to meet the goal of all gun-qualified officers issued a TASER.

Assessment of Progress

- In March of 2015, DAJD purchased 124 X2 TASERs. These were issued to supervisors and officers assigned to the department's Court Detail unit.
- In December of 2016, DAJD purchased 23 X2 TASERs. These TASERs were issued to the department's Corrections Emergency Response Team (CERT).
- In October of 2017, 25 additional X2 TASERs were purchased. These were purchased and issued to sergeants still needing the equipment and to the Court Detail units to be used by officers working temporarily in court duties and other transport assignments.
- In January of 2018, DAJD purchased 25 X2 TASERs. These TASERs will be assigned to the operational shifts to be used as "pool" TASERs. The TASERs are issued on a daily basis depending on the officer's specific assignment.

Overview of Procurement Needs

In order to meet the goal of providing every qualified officer a TASER, DAJD would need to purchase an additional 147 X2 TASERs in 2018. The TASERs would be issued to 103 qualified officers that have not been issued a TASER, and the remaining 44 TASER units would be issued to those officers expected to become weapons qualified in 2018 and 2019.

Funding Needs

Equipping officers with TASERS includes the cost of the units, the Tactical Power Magazine (battery), two X2 TASER cartridges, a holster, and the five-year warranty coverage, after which the X2 TASERs are replaced by the newest model at no cost. A breakdown of those individual costs is as follows:

| TASER Cost Per Officer | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| X2 TASER | \$1,116.55 |
| Tactical Power Magazine (battery) | \$59.08 |
| X2 TASER Cartridge (two cartridges) | \$63.78 |
| Holster | \$71.39 |
| TASER Assurance Program (warranty) | \$218.54 |
| Total Per Officer | \$1529.34 |
| Total for 147 Officers | \$224,812.98 |

Training

In addition to the hard costs of the TASER equipment and warranty, gun-qualified officers must go through a certification process. In 2018 - 2019, DAJD intends to qualify an additional 44 officers. Each of these trainings must be done off-shift and therefore incur overtime. The cost for this initial 8-hour TASER certification class is as follows:

| TASER Certification | |
|---|--------------------|
| Instructor Overtime Cost | \$1,040.00 |
| Student Overtime Cost | \$20,508.00 |
| Total Certification Cost for 44 Officers | \$21,548.00 |

Finally, all TASER qualified officers are required to attend a 3-hour recertification class annually. A breakdown of the annual costs are as follows:

| Annual TASER Recertification Cost | |
|--|---------------------|
| Instructor Overtime Cost | \$18,073.00 |
| Student Overtime Cost | \$62,151.00 |
| Training Equipment Cost | \$22,000.00 |
| Total Recertification Cost for 344 Officers | \$102,224.00 |

Conclusion

The X2 TASER is a widely used less-lethal tool that is proven to minimize risk and reduce injury. DAJD is not currently funded to issue a TASER and provide appropriate training to all qualified staff. The goal of implementing roll out to all gun-qualified officers would enhance the safety of those incarcerated, along with DAJD staff, and promote public safety.