

Date: July 5, 2017
To: Chief Patrick Mitchell
From: Captain Christopher Marks
Subject: MRAP Procurement from Madison Police Department

Chief Mitchell,

Over the past several months, the West Allis Police Department has been exploring the possible procurement of a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle (MRAP) through Wisconsin Emergency Management's 1033 Program. These vehicles, used by the U.S. Military, are designed specifically to withstand improvised explosive device attacks and ambushes. Upon completion of their military deployment, these vehicles can be allocated to law enforcement agencies through this program. They are used by several county and municipal law enforcement agencies in Wisconsin in a myriad of deployment situations which include but are not limited to active critical incidents, active or pre-planned SWAT incidents, mutual aid requests for active critical incidents, pre-planned operations, and community events.

As a part of this exploration, I provided Deputy Chief Botsch with information regarding initial costs associated with this procurement. Summary cost estimates were approximately \$13,000 which included 1033 Program enrollment, shipping, painting, and emergency equipment outfitting. This did not include any cost associated with repair of the specific MRAP that would be designated for our agency through this program. I would be unable to provide this cost estimate until the exact vehicle designated for our agency is determined (we would not have the ability to choose a specific unit, as one is specifically delegated to us by the program).

On June 28th, 2017, Caitlin Snyder (Wisconsin Emergency Management 1033 Program Planner), contacted me regarding an MRAP that the Madison Police Department would be relinquishing in August or September of this year. MPD cannot turn this vehicle over to another agency, but must turn it over to Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM). WEM will then delegate it to the West Allis Police Department, assuming prior PFC approval.

This specific MRAP is a 2008 MaxxPro in fully operable condition. MPD has utilized this vehicle since the fall of 2013. It is already painted (navy blue). Decals would need to be removed. There is potential that MPD would transfer the vehicle accessories (light bar, siren). MPD advised they would be willing to drive the vehicle to West Allis and provide training regarding its operation. This eliminates significant costs related to shipping and painting. The standard cost for outfitting decals to a new squad car is approximately \$400. I suspect the costs for outfitting West Allis decals on this MRAP would be consistent with this. Thus, initial cost estimates for this specific MRAP would be \$400. We would also incur additional costs for the lights, siren, and radio in the event we would need to purchase new ones (approximate cost \$3,000-\$4000). Overall cost savings would be substantial in comparison to newly purchased armored personnel carriers used by the military and law enforcement agencies (commonly referred to as BearCats) which has a cost estimate of several hundred-thousand dollars.

I spoke with Assistant Chief Victor Wahl of the Madison Police Department who is open to negotiating with West Allis regarding the cost of the emergency lights and siren already affixed to the vehicle. This negotiation would likely benefit both agencies, saving West Allis the full cost of purchasing new emergency equipment while saving Madison the time and cost associated with removing them. Acquiring this specific MRAP will result in significant cost savings while providing officers with life-saving equipment. Over the past 2 years, the West Allis Police Department has requested the assistance of armored vehicles from neighboring agencies approximately 6 times. The West Allis Police Department likely would have utilized an armored vehicle for the protection of our officers and the public on several additional occasions during this timeframe, had we owned one. The overall cost of this particular MRAP, coupled with the expenses that the West Allis Police Department will save as a result of this specific opportunity will only ensure added officer safety and the safety of the public during incidents and situations which deem the use of armored vehicles necessary.

The West Allis Police Department will not need to request additional funding to acquire this MRAP through Wisconsin Emergency Management and the 1033 Program. I have attached a photograph of Madison Police Department's MRAP. As you will see, it is painted navy blue and is clearly marked, "Madison Police." We will facilitate visual markings in a similar fashion.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christopher Marks".

Captain Christopher Marks

