



Agenda Item: 16.D
Date of Meeting: July 27, 2026
Department: Police

STAFF REPORT

To: City Council
From: Nate Derr
Subject: **Authorize the purchase of two (2) Chevrolet Tahoe Police Pursuit Vehicles from Michael Hohl Chevrolet of Carson City, Nevada, in an amount not to exceed \$65,000 per vehicle (\$130,000 total).**
Prepared On: July 17, 2026
Attachments: 2026 Tahoe Quote 1
2026 Tahoe Quote 2

Background/History:

During the City's Strategic Planning process, the City Council identified the replacement of aging police patrol vehicles as a priority. Funding for the replacement of two patrol vehicles was subsequently included and approved in the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget (at \$65,000 per unit).

The Bishop Police Department currently operates two Dodge Charger patrol vehicles that have reached the end of their useful service life. These vehicles have experienced increasing mechanical failures and significantly higher maintenance costs. During Fiscal Year 2025-2026, repair and maintenance expenses exceeded the Police Department's annual vehicle maintenance budget due primarily to the age and condition of these vehicles.

While department staff has continued to maintain the vehicles to ensure operational readiness and officer safety, the increasing frequency and cost of repairs has made continued investment in these vehicles neither practical nor fiscally responsible.

Analysis/Discussion:

The law enforcement vehicle market has changed significantly over the past several years. Traditional police sedans, including the Dodge Charger Police Pursuit Vehicle, are no longer being manufactured. Most manufacturers have transitioned exclusively to police-rated sport utility vehicles and trucks.

The Chevrolet Tahoe Police Pursuit Vehicle has become one of the industry standards and is widely utilized by law enforcement agencies throughout California due to its:

- Increased cargo capacity for modern police equipment.
- Improved officer ergonomics and safety.
- Greater payload capacity.
- Enhanced performance in varying weather and roadway conditions.
- Proven reliability and long-term fleet support.

Department staff evaluated current purchasing options. Victorville Chevrolet was contacted to provide pricing; however, despite repeated outreach, no response or quotation was received.

Enterprise Fleet Management was contacted for quotes, and multiple vehicle types were provided for consideration. However, this vendor does not provide for a direct purchase option, instead leasing is the only option provided to us as a customer. For the acquisition of these two vehicles, the City intends to purchase outright.

Michael Hohl Chevrolet of Carson City responded promptly to the City's request, provided a competitive quotation, and currently has two appropriately equipped Tahoe Police Pursuit Vehicles in inventory that are available for immediate purchase. Staff believes this presents the most advantageous opportunity to replace the vehicles without additional delays.

Staff was also advised that comparable police pursuit vehicles, including the Ford Police Interceptor Utility (Explorer), are not expected to be available until sometime after the beginning of calendar year 2027. Delaying replacement would require continued operation of aging patrol vehicles with increasing maintenance costs and potential reliability concerns.

In summary, three vendors were sourced for inventory and purchase options, one of the sourced vendors was unresponsive, one was responsive but did not offer the preferred method of purchase as an option, and the awarded vendor provided purchase options for two in-stock vehicles.

Impacts to Council Goals and Strategic Planning Priorities:

Objective: 3.6 Capital replacement program

Budget Impacts:

The purchase of the two vehicles is included within the FY 2026-27 Budget.

Legal Review:

City Attorney Pucci has reviewed this item and finds it complies with the law.

Recommended Action:

That the City Council:

Authorize the purchase of two (2) Chevrolet Tahoe Police Pursuit Vehicles from Michael Hohl Chevrolet in an amount not to exceed \$65,000 per vehicle.

Authorize the City Administrator to execute all documents necessary to complete the purchase.

Approved By: Ethan Aukee 7/20/2026

Approved By: Alison Bishop 7/20/2026

Approved By: Dean Pucci 7/20/2026

Approved By: Pam Foster 7/21/2026