




San Diego Unified Schools Police Department

San Diego Unified School District
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 24, 2014
TO: C. Marten, via P. Stover
FROM: R. Littlejohn 
SUBJECT: Student Rescue Vehicle

I. Summary:

School Police is requesting approval to accept a \$710,000 "Student Rescue Vehicle" at no cost. The vehicle, a 2013 Mine-Resistant Ambush Protection (MRAP) is actually brand new, and comes to us via the Federal Government's 1033 Program (photo on page four). The military ordered too many MRAPs for operations overseas, and approximately 400 vehicles were delivered after the primary withdrawals from Iraq and Afghanistan. These vehicles are now being made available to law enforcement agencies as no cost. Each agency must simply agree to return the vehicle and/or have it "scrapped" at the end of its operational life—estimated at 15-25 years.

Summary of Request:

- School Police be allowed to accept the free \$710,000 MRAP.
- Approval to spend \$1,000 to \$2,000 to have the vehicle delivered from its current storage facility in Texas. This cost may go as high as \$4,700 if our first delivery option does not come to fruition.
- Approval to spend the estimated \$500 to \$1,000 annually on the preventative maintenance.

II. Needs Assessment:

Based on the evolving levels of threats facing our schools, School Police has long needed a "Student Rescue Vehicle." At any moment School Police could be faced with:

- An active shooter(s) on one of our schools
- Earthquake
- Fire or other regional rescue
- Flood
- Evacuating students being exposed to dangerous chemicals/weapons

We have been actively seeking grant funds for a Lenco Bear (photo on page four) that would be the next best alternative to an MRAP. The Bear costs approximately \$500,000. The MRAP and Bear both provide:

- Adequate armor protection to protect students under fire
- The size and power to drive through rubble (or pull-down walls) to free students trapped by an earthquake and/or structure fire
- The height and sealed passenger compartment allowing the vehicle to drive through nearly five feet of flood waters
- Onboard clean air system allowing the rescue of students from areas exposed to a variety of hazardous materials
- Onboard fire extinguishing system to protect passengers

However, now that a six-wheel drive MRAP is available at no cost, this is a far superior option.

III. Acquisition Plan:

The Federal government would like to move quickly in distributing MRAPs to interested agencies. School Police should receive a confirmation of an assigned pick-up date within the next two-to-four weeks.

These new MRAPs are stored at a military depot in central Texas. We have a pending meeting with officials from the United States Border Patrol; they regularly utilize the California National Guard to move their heavy equipment. We are being told that Border Patrol can arrange for the National Guard to deliver the MRAP on a flatbed truck for the cost of fuel only (estimated at \$1,000 to \$2,000).

We also have a quote of \$4,700 from a private heavy equipment moving service.

A third option would be for School Police to send two supervisors and one officer to pick-up the MRAP in Texas and drive it back. Specifics associated with this trip are:

- SDUSD Transportation Department has agreed to train the School Police team to ensure they have appropriate Class-B Operating Permits prior to leaving for MRAP pick-up.
- Three day round trip:
 - One day driving to the Texas facility (approximately 20 hours)
 - One night in hotel in Texas
 - Two day return drive with MRAP. Team will stop at a hotel after making prior arrangements to store MRAP in secure police facility near the half-way point of return trip.
 - Hotel costs: \$480 (Two nights, time three rooms, times \$80 per night)
- Food for three-member team for three days: \$270 (\$30 dollars per day, times three officers, times three days)

- Estimated fuel for MRAP: \$1,000 (2,000 miles, divided by 8mpg, times \$4.00 per gallon for diesel)
- Estimated fuel for additional police vehicle: \$950 (4,000 miles, divided by 15mpg, times \$3.50 per gallon for unleaded)
- Upon arrival in San Diego, the MRAP will be driven to one of several secure facilities currently under evaluation.
- Total cost for our personnel to transport MRAP from Texas: \$2,700

IV. Operational Plan:

The School Police MRAP will be the only designated Armored Victim Rescue vehicle in San Diego County. It will also be the only armor designated to be deployed by First Responders (front line police officers). Our goal is to have the vehicle anywhere in the district within 15 minutes (max).

Furthermore, our vehicle will be stocked with enough advanced medical supplies to treat several hundred wounded. As mentioned, our MRAP is not just for campus violence. We would deploy the vehicle if needed to ram through a building (or pull down a wall) to rescue children/staff at the scene of an earthquake or some other disaster/emergency, drive through flood waters for trapped children, evacuate students from area exposed to hazardous materials, etc.

The School Police Student Rescue Vehicle will also be available upon request for public relation events, school carnivals, etc, to showcase the San Diego Unified School District's commitment to protecting children, while at the same time demonstrating fiscal responsibility; other than the estimated \$1,000 to \$4,700 in pending deliver costs, no educational dollars will be spent on vehicle purchase/acquisition. We will also use the MRAP for select emergency drills at various school sites.

V. Ongoing Maintenance:

Mechanically, the MRAP has a basic semi-truck powertrain (a Cummings Diesel Engine with an Allison Transmission). According to Federal personnel with the 1033 Program, the MRAP should generally require one annual preventive maintenance service—an estimated cost of \$500 to \$1,000. School Police has already met with our Fleet Maintenance staff and confirmed their ability to service the MRAP.

The MRAP also comes with six additional run-flat tires, which theoretically should not wear out because of the relatively low anticipated mileage.

VI. Photographs



MRAP seen here in tactical black.

The School Police MRAP will be painted medium grey with "RESCUE" in large red letters where "POLICE" is located on this vehicle. The vehicle will have appropriate San Diego Unified School District and School Police markings. The above vehicle has an armored turret; our vehicle will not have a turret.



In comparison, pictured above is a **Lenco Bear**, the \$500,000 vehicle we have been seeking grant funds to purchase. The \$710,000 MRAP is far superior in all areas of performance and protection.

C: Jenny Salkeld