

Appleton Police Department

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM



Date: May 21, 2018
To: CEA Committee
From: Assistant Chief Larry Potter
Subject: AWD Upgrade for Marked Squads

The police department would like to upgrade incoming marked squads from Front Wheel Drive (FWD) to All Wheel Drive (AWD). As you may recall, we formed a committee in 2016 to examine options for fleet purchases for 2017 and beyond. The make-up of the committee was a blend of CEA personnel and APD Officers. Through their research and examination, the committee recommended the Ford Police Interceptor AWD sedan as the next marked police vehicle.

The below excerpt is from a previous memo to the CEA committee highlighting the value of AWD platform:

- *"The committee would recommend that APD transition to the Ford Police Interceptor AWD sedan. This particular vehicle package offers a number of features that were very important to members of the committee, as well as officers within the department. The AWD capability of the vehicle was highly desirable. AWD capability was the single most important feature identified by the committee, and was also the most desired feature by officers that responded to committee surveys. AWD capability will allow officers to more effectively provide police service during periods when hazardous road conditions are present, and increase the safety of officers required to drive during those times. In addition, the vehicle package offers a standard back-up camera. This feature should help to significantly reduce the number of accidents that officers are involved in during backing maneuvers."*

Since that time, the AWD's capabilities have proven valuable. During the blizzard in the spring of 2018, for example, the ability to maneuver in the extreme conditions allowed the police department to deliver services relatively uninterrupted. The estimated cost for this upgrade to incoming marked patrol vehicles in 2019 is \$1,260.00 per unit (9 Units). If approved, the additional cost for the upgrade will be included in the Appleton Police Department's budget request for 2019.

Our unmarked fleet will remain with the standard FWD sedan, as their requirement to respond in an emergency fashion, during inclement weather, is limited. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask. Thank you for your consideration.