

Appleton Police Department

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM



Date: May 21, 2018
To: CEA Committee
From: Assistant Chief Larry Potter
Subject: SWAT Transition to SUV's

The police department is requesting to transition one of the incoming sedans to an SUV in 2019. Lt. Bill McCormick, a member of the SWAT team, is scheduled to receive a new squad next year. The amount of gear a SWAT member is required to keep on hand, similar to a K-9 officer, is significant. We would ask that the vehicle assigned to him be an SUV instead of a sedan.

SWAT officers are required to have their equipment ready to deploy at a moment's notice - for obvious reasons. If assigned a one-to-one squad, they must keep everything in the vehicle for quick access. The space and functionality gained with the SUV platform is tremendous, allowing SWAT officers to carry and access necessary equipment without taking away the ability to also carry items for general patrol.

Also of note, as mentioned in the K-9 memo, is the fact that Ford has notified agencies that the sedan platform will not be available for purchase after March of 2019 due to the popularity of their SUV police package. At this point it appears as though buyers will be forced to purchase SUV's unless another manufacturer begins supplying police sedans again. The price of Chrysler's current police sedan makes the FORD SUV a more logical alternative.

The cost associated with the requested move is \$4500. If approved, the additional cost for the upgrade will be included in the Appleton Police Department's budget request for 2019. We will similarly be requesting transitions to SUV's for squad assignments for SWAT officers in future years, though, as mentioned above, sedans may not even be an option.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask. Thank you for your consideration.