



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council Meeting of August 26, 2025

DATE: August 26, 2025

TO: Peter Zanoni, City Manager

FROM: Mike Markle, Chief of Police
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<p>Purchase of one additional Ford F-450 for the Corpus Christi Police Department Bomb Squad through the 2025 Homeland Security Grant</p>
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CAPTION:

Motion authorizing the purchase of one additional Ford F-450 from Silsbee Ford, of Silsbee, Texas, through the TIPS Cooperative, for the Corpus Christi Police Department's Bomb Squad for a total amount of \$112,007.75 (\$65,355.00 for the truck cost, \$39,270.50 for the upfitting cost, and other service related costs), with FY 2025 funding in the amount of \$109,507.75 available through the Police Grants Fund and \$2,500.00 from the General Fund.

SUMMARY:

This item is a motion to approve the purchase of one additional 2025 Ford F-450 from Silsbee Ford, of Silsbee, Texas, through the TIPS Cooperative, for the Corpus Christi Police Department's Bomb Squad.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The Corpus Christi Police Department's (CCPD) Bomb Squad responds to an average of over 100 calls annually. The Bomb Squad not only responds in Corpus Christi but also regionally across 21 counties in total as well as to the Port of Corpus Christi. CCPD's Bomb Squad currently has two Ford F-450s that carry large amounts of equipment to locations where it can be used for screening, detection, and disposal of improvised explosive devices (IEDs). The equipment that CCPD's Bomb Squad currently carries weighs 3,500 pounds. This requires a heavy-duty vehicle such as the Ford F-450 that provides safe and capable travel to and from incidents and that can also securely house the necessary equipment and explosives carried by the Bomb Squad.

Specifically, the Bomb Squad response vehicle is necessary to transport explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) equipment used for screening, detection, and disposal of improvised explosive devices (IED). The two current Bomb Squad vehicles are used for transporting five Bomb Squad personnel and carrying roughly 3,500 pounds of equipment each. However, this has put a strain on readiness and efficiency for the Bomb Squad. The additional Bomb Squad vehicle is necessary to maintain operational readiness.

Bomb Squad technicians need to be self-sufficient to effectively respond immediately to hazardous situations involving explosives without relying on another technician to provide transportation. This independence ensures rapid deployment and immediate action, minimizing risks to public safety. Additionally, self-sufficiency allows bomb technicians to conduct threat assessments, perform safe evacuations, and execute controlled detonations or disarmament operations, all while ensuring their safety and maintaining operational efficiency even in isolated environments.

While specific federal requirements may vary, law enforcement agencies, including bomb squad units, are generally expected to have the capability to operate as self-sufficient units. This expectation often stems from national guidelines, best practices, and training standards established by organizations such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Homeland Security. These guidelines emphasize the importance of rapid response and operational independence in dealing with explosives and threats to public safety. Once a situation has been immediately assessed by the responding technician, additional assets can be requested such as the large EOD truck which carries more advanced technology to deal with potentially larger scale hazardous incidents.

If approved, the additional Bomb Squad truck will be ordered and subsequently received by City Fleet. Once received, it will be immediately delivered to C&S Truck and Equipment for outfitting upon arrival. The truck will be upfitted before being assigned to the Bomb Squad. The upfitting will include a specialized heavy duty aluminum camper with rear and side opening doors. The Bomb Squad package includes a 30H X 48W X 90D slide out drawer, 500lb drawer slides on each side, an explosive storage cabinet, a robot tray, heavy duty shelves for tool storage, battery chargers, and an alarm system with glass sensor/door triggers on each door. Each of these items provide the space, security and effectiveness to be self-sufficient in responding to an EOD incident.

This grant funding was specifically allotted for the purchase of the additional Ford F-450 for CCPD's Bomb Squad in the grant application and grant award from the Texas Office of the Governor – Homeland Security Grant Division for the State Homeland Security Program. The acceptance of the grant funding awarded from the Texas Office of the Governor – Homeland Security Grant Division for the State Homeland Security Program was approved by City Council in July 2025.

PROCUREMENT DETAIL:

This procurement is through the TIPS Cooperative. Contracts awarded through the cooperative have been competitively procured in compliance with Texas local and state procurement guidelines.

Procurement has modified their business practices for a proactive approach to the City's vehicle procurement process. The modified business practice uses all resources available to ensure that vehicles and equipment are sourced and delivered in a timely manner while using economically favorable methods.

The base pricing for the Ford F-450 from Silsbee Ford through the TIPS Cooperative is \$65,355.00. A comparative same make and model could not be located within other competitive cooperatives, so Procurement searched for a comparative base model and options from a Texas Ford dealership through Ford's website. A competitively priced Ford F-450 was found online; however, its base pricing is \$68,425.00. Additionally, the total pricing, which includes upfitting and delivery, for the competitively priced Ford F-450 through Ford online is \$116,370.50, which is \$4,362.75 more than the Ford F-450 available from Silsbee Ford through the TIPS Cooperative.

Below is a table that provides the cost comparison between the Silsbee Ford through the TIPS Cooperative and the Ford online cost.

ITEM		DESCRIPTION	TIPS - Silsbee Ford	Ford Dealership (Online)	Variance
1	Base Cost	2025 FORD F-450	\$65,355.00	\$68,425.00	\$3,070.00
2		4x4 Package	\$3,995.00	\$3,470.00	\$(525.00)
3		Options	\$610.00	\$610.00	-
		Discount	\$(230.25)	N/A	-
4	Destination Charge		\$507.50	\$2,095.00	\$1,587.50
5	Upfitting Service		\$41,770.50	\$41,770.50	-
Total			\$112,007.75	\$116,370.50	\$(4,362.75)

ALTERNATIVES:

The alternative is not to approve the purchase of the Ford F-450 for CCPD's Bomb Squad and instead return the grant funds to the Office of the Governor, Homeland Security Grants Division.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact for FY 2025 is funding in the amount of \$109,507.75 from the Police Grants Fund and \$2,500.00 from the General Fund.

This grant funding was specifically allotted for the purchase of the additional Ford F-450 for CCPD's Bomb Squad in the grant application and grant award from the Texas Office of the Governor – Homeland Security Grant Division for the State Homeland Security Program.

Funding Detail:

Fund: 1062
Organization/Activity: 821276F
Department: 10
Project # (CIP Only): N/A
Account: 550020
Amount: \$109,507.75

Fund: 1020
Organization/Activity: 11740
Department: 29
Project # (CIP Only): N/A
Account: 550020
Amount: \$2,500.00

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the purchase of one additional 2025 Ford F-450 Police Bomb Squad Pickup from Silsbee Ford, of Silsbee, Texas, through the TIPS Cooperative.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Price Sheet