



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
{{item.tracking_number}}

Agenda Item Number: 3

Agenda Date: January 16, 2024

In Control: Public Safety Committee

DEPARTMENT: Police Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: William McManus, Chief of Police

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

San Antonio Police Department Status of e-Citation Devices

SUMMARY:

The San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) will provide the Public Safety Committee a briefing on current e-Citation technology, replacement / upgrade of e-Citation technology and potential expansion of e-Citation technology to Patrol.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In 2013, the San Antonio Police Department's Traffic Section began using dedicated electronic citation (e-Citation) devices to issue traffic citations. e-Citation devices allow officers to scan an offender's driver's license, enter a violation, enter notes, capture time and location of the incident, and capture an offender's signature. An accompanying printer is used to print a copy of the ticket for the offender.

The use of e-Citation devices reduces the time to issue a traffic citation and instantly transfers citation data to municipal court. Further, e-Citation devices improve the monitoring and tracking of issued traffic citations and reduces the risk of lost or misplaced paper tickets and the risk associated with illegible tickets.

Throughout June and July 2023 SAPD and ITSD conducted field testing of four different e-Citation device types and platforms to replace the current e-Citation devices that were at end of life. SAPD recommended proceeding with Zebra TC73 e-Citation device and Zebra ZQ521 printer, with accompanying accessories such as chargers and protective cases. The new e-Citation devices will not only replace the current devices that are at end of life, but also provide advanced technology to better scan driver's licenses, a new Android operating system, and a standard power charger eliminating the need for an additional power cable.

Quotes were obtained from two vendors: Tyler, and GTS. These devices require configuration which is only provided by Tyler. The configuration cost was included with the unit price if the devices were purchased from Tyler. A configuration charge would be assessed if the devices were purchased from another vendor.

SAPD and ITSD are planning to evaluate potential configurations to support the deployment of electronic citation devices in the Patrol Division. These configurations may include outfitting each patrol vehicle with an e-Citation device. Alternatively, a cellular phone equipped with a mobile application and a printer could be assigned to each patrol vehicle to operate as an electronic citation device. Lastly, SAPD and ITSD will analyze the possibility of leveraging the Mobile Data Terminal (laptop) in the patrol vehicle to add the capability of operating as an electronic citation device. Similar to the cellular phone solution, a printer would be required to provide a paper copy of the citation to the offender.

ISSUE:

The San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) will provide the Public Safety Committee a briefing on current e-Citation technology, replacement / upgrade of e-Citation technology and potential expansion of e-Citation technology to Patrol.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This item is for briefing purposes.

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is for briefing purposes.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for briefing purposes.