

From: [Erik Ottersen](#)
To: [publiccomment](#)
Subject: Redwood City Council Agenda Item 8C - Annual Military Equipment
Date: Monday, April 15, 2024 10:15:13 AM

You don't often get email from erikottersen@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good evening City Council,

My name is Erik Ottersen and I am the Police Officer Association (POA) President for the Redwood City Police Department. I am writing to express my full support for the proposal for the Redwood City Police Department to acquire essential equipment aimed at de-escalating critical incidents and ensuring the safety of both our officers and the community we serve. I believe it is crucial for our law enforcement officers to have access to the necessary resources to ensure public safety and protect our community effectively.

In today's ever-changing landscape of threats and challenges, law enforcement agencies must be equipped to respond swiftly and decisively to any situation that may arise. Providing our police department with modern equipment will not only enhance our ability to combat crime but also serve as a deterrent against potential threats to our city. In addition, the tools specifically requested allow for more information, time to de-escalate, increased options for achieving peaceful resolutions, enhanced situational awareness, and advanced capabilities for less-lethal interventions.

Furthermore, it is essential to recognize that the acquisition of such equipment is not about militarizing our police force but rather about equipping them with the tools they need to uphold the law and safeguard our citizens. By investing in the latest technology and resources, we are investing in the safety and security of our community.

I urge you to consider this proposal carefully and to prioritize the well-being of our citizens by approving the acquisition of new military equipment for our police department. Together, we can ensure that the City of Redwood City remains a safe and thriving place for all its residents.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Erik Ottersen

Redwood City Police POA President

From: [Captain Sears](#)
To: [publiccomment](#)
Subject: Redwood City Council Agenda Item 8C - Annual Military Equipment
Date: Monday, April 15, 2024 12:49:08 PM

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"My name is Anthony and I support the Redwood City Police Department's continued use of military equipment. I also support them getting the new military equipment requested in order to enhance the safety and security of our community

From: [Jake Trueb](#)
To: [publiccomment](#)
Subject: Redwood City Council Agenda Item 8C - Annual Military Equipment
Date: Monday, April 15, 2024 1:01:31 PM

You don't often get email from jaketrueb@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

My name is Jake Trueb and I support the Redwood City Police Department's use of military equipment. I also support their acquisition of drones, the Hyperspike long-range acoustical hailing device, Defense Technology less lethal launchers and the kinetic breaching tool.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: docperna@aol.com
To: [publiccomment](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 8.C.
Date: Monday, April 15, 2024 1:35:35 PM

You don't often get email from docperna@aol.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Drones have been a standard piece of equipment in most law enforcement agencies for many years. They provide a safer, more efficient way to look for missing persons, to locate victims and suspects, and to do a myriad of other functions. Without them, under current conditions, these searches take much longer and put officer's lives at risk. There are no legitimate privacy concerns regarding drone usage, only benefits. The Redwood City Police Department needs to meet the minimum industry standard and leverage accepted technology currently in use by just about every police department in the country.

Nick Perna

From: [Todd Freeman](#)
To: [publiccomment](#)
Subject: April 15 CalPERS Discussion
Date: Monday, April 15, 2024 2:22:21 PM

You don't often get email from todd@toddfreeman.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

City Council:

I noted on this evening's agenda a discussion of CalPERS.

I would like the council to give serious consideration to considering steps on how to mitigate the long-term consequences to the city of continued participation in the CalPERS system, and to report to the residents all the various alternatives to CalPERS and the cost of each.

I think it is enormously important for the city to be able to attract and retain quality employees, but I hope it is not lost on the council that virtually ONLY public service employees have defined benefit systems like CalPERS, CalSTRS, SamCERA etc. and that the benefit formulas of these plans are easily amongst the most generous and expensive benefit formulas to be found in the entire country.

Notwithstanding the various tiers of benefits offered to employees, which simply delay or defer, but do not effectively reduce the age factor percentages available, Redwood City finds itself continuously in a position to cough up ever greater sums and percentages of payroll to CalPERS.

It needs to be said that the overwhelming majority of for-profit businesses have abandoned these plans and moved to defined contribution 401K(s) or other equivalents, simply because the open-ended liability represented by a defined benefit plan allows the city virtually no flexibility at a time when they will come to need it the most.

Should CalPERS continue to miss their benchmarks or this economy suffers a major market correction or recession, CalPERS' demands will grow at a time when the city will be ill-equipped to pay. Sadly, the businesses and residents of the city will pay for a retirement plan they could only dream of participating in.

Currently, the city has accepted ALL the market risk of their employee's pension plans. That is simply economically untenable, and I am not persuaded that the council is even remotely conscious of the exposure they have accepted on behalf of residents.

Please consider freezing current CalPERS benefits for all new employees and substituting Social Security PLUS a K plan contribution that increases with time.

Consider capping employer contributions at a reasonable level, and passing all future CalPERS percentage increases to employees, but do not allow the city to continue to retain this liability.

If you're going to consider a new business license tax, parcel tax, or document transfer tax apply the

revenue to exiting CalPERS.

Seriously, you need to get out in front of this before it buries you. You will have plenty of company with all the other cities in California, but it will be small consolation.

Best regards,
Todd Freeman

From: [PD Diana Villegas](#)
To: [publiccomment](#)
Subject: Public Comment 8C
Date: Monday, April 15, 2024 2:46:14 PM

> As the current Crisis Negotiations Team Leader at the Redwood City Police Department I am writing to recommend the purchase of Hyperspikes Technology for enhancing communication and negotiation with barricaded subjects in our community.

>

> I strongly believe that investing in this advanced communication tool will further strengthen our city's ability to respond effectively to critical incidents and ensure the safety and well being of our residents.

>

> This advanced technology offers clear communication at a distance, improving safety and negotiation outcomes in critical situations.

>

> Thank you!

>

> Sincerely,

> Diana Villegas

> Police Sergeant Association Member

From: [Aaron T](#)
To: [publiccomment](#)
Subject: Item 8C
Date: Monday, April 15, 2024 3:09:39 PM

[You don't often get email from ruger363@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear council members;

The Redwood City Police Department needs to have military equipment to both combat and deal with potential active shooters, terrorist threats, and maintain firepower superiority over the evil that exists in this day and age. Hopefully someone will remind Ms Garnica that the National Guard's response time to a critical incident could be from 24-48 hours. Incase she needs further translation that's 1-2 days.

Sincerely,

Aaron

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Aaron Odom](#)
To: [publiccomment](#)
Subject: Redwood City Council Agenda Item 8C - Annual Military Equipment
Date: Monday, April 15, 2024 3:09:58 PM

You don't often get email from aodom916@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Council and City members,

This email is in regards to my support for the Redwood City Police Department's continued use of military equipment. I also support them getting the new military equipment requested in order to enhance the safety and security of our community. Most, if not all of this "Military Equipment" the Police Department is requesting, is equipment needed for them to effectively do their jobs safely and efficiently. Majority of the items on this list are used by most other public safety agencies throughout the county. Requesting mutual aid to use said items in a time of crisis or an emergency often creates a delay in the efficiency and effectiveness of the job at hand, and RCPD needs to retain their own equipment for quick and necessary responses. Allowance of this equipment is much needed. Thank you

Respectfully,

"AO"

From: [Vikki Cresci](#)
To: [publiccomment](#)
Subject: Redwood City Council Agenda Item 8C-Annual Military Equipment
Date: Monday, April 15, 2024 3:20:52 PM

[You don't often get email from grammyviksue@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Hello-

My name is Victoria Cresci. It is important that I support the RWC Police Department in regards to keeping and getting new military equipment. As a resident of RWC I want to continue to feel safe and secure in my community .

Sincerely,

Victoria Cresci

Sent from my iPhone

From: [David Parrish](#)
To: [publiccomment](#)
Subject: Redwood City police
Date: Monday, April 15, 2024 3:22:50 PM

You don't often get email from davidparrish992@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

My name is Dave Parrish, and I support the Redwood City Police departments continued use of military equipment. I also support them getting the new military equipment requested in order to enhance safety and security of our community. Please continue to give the police all the tools they need.

Thank you.

Dave

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Anthony Barron](#)
To: [publiccomment](#)
Subject: Redwood City Council Agenda Item 8C - Annual Military Equipment
Date: Monday, April 15, 2024 4:04:36 PM

You don't often get email from abarron05@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

My name is Anthony Barron and I support the Redwood City Police Department's continued use of "military equipment". I believe most community members recognize that much of the equipment the police department is using or requesting has unfairly been deemed "Military equipment" by the state. The industry standard police drone for example, is the DJI Matrice, an unarmed, commercially available drone able to be purchased at Walmart. I support the Police Department in obtaining the new equipment requested in order to most safely do their jobs and enhance public safety within our community.

- Anthony Barron

From: [Clara Jaeckel](#)
To: [publiccomment](#)
Subject: public comment for 4/15/2024 city council meeting, agenda item 8C
Date: Monday, April 15, 2024 3:41:58 PM

You don't often get email from claraejaeckel@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

This comment is for agenda item 8C regarding military equipment purchase. As a disclaimer, I am a member of the Redwood City Police Advisory Committee, but I am making this comment as an individual resident, not speaking for the committee here.

I appreciate the transparency in publishing the military equipment use report and proposed policy. It's really worthwhile and important to shine a light on this, because what we're looking at is the equipment that is being prepared to use in our community, on residents and visitors of Redwood City. So we need safeguards in place to protect privacy rights in daily life when bringing in surveillance equipment like drones, and to ensure accountability in how they are used, beyond the very brief section on drones in the current proposed policy.

To that end, the purchase of drones should not be authorized without a full policy in place for these safeguard requirements:

- Drones should be deployed by law enforcement only with a warrant, in an emergency, or with specific grounds to believe the drone will collect evidence about a specific criminal act.
- The images a drone camera takes should be stored only with reasonable suspicion that they contain evidence of a crime or are relevant to an ongoing case.
- Procedures for oversight and annual open audits of drone use should be established to ensure accountability.
- Drones should never carry any kind of weapons.

Thank you.
Clara Jaeckel

From: [Oyster Holdings LLC](#)
To: [publiccomment](#)
Cc: [Oyster Holdings LLC](#)
Subject: Concern over Pedestrian Mall resolution - Please read on my behalf
Date: Monday, April 15, 2024 3:43:58 PM

You don't often get email from oysterproperties@oysterinc.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Council Members Gee, Espinoza-Garnica, Aguirre, Eakin, Howard, Martinez Saballos and Sturken,

I am submitting my concerns over the vague and arbitrary language with regard to this Pedestrian Mall on Broadway between Main Street and Jefferson Avenue, inclusive of Redwood Creek between the City parking lot and the Marshall Street garage. I make claims for unspecified amounts of damages that could be incurred upon our property APN: 052-374-180 located at the corner of Broadway and Main know as The Fitzpatrick Building at 2000 and 2020 Broadway for:

1. Financial harm due to general liability claims as the Resolution fails to specify responsibility for the pedestrian mall and its users. Currently a "sample Endorsement form" is referenced in Resolution 16062 (governing parklets and outdoor activities), but is virtually impossible to find, does it exist? Is it an endorsement from the landlord to the City? What is the City's responsibility to supply a hold harmless agreement to property owners for activities that occur in the Pedestrian Mall adjacent to our properties and businesses?
2. Undetermined financial harm with regard to altering leases (if that can be accomplished based on current lease terms). Financial harm in the amount of consulting attorneys to provide appropriate protections for this undisclosed liability imposed by Redwood City.
3. Undetermined increase in insurance costs based on the extension of liability to cover this new adjacent hazard.
4. Financial harm from undisclosed assessments associated with: Paragraph 8 establishes the potential for another layer of financial obligation, in the form of an assessment district, upon the downtown property owners restricted to this area. This is unfair. If it is a benefit to Redwood City, as stated in paragraph 3, then the whole community will reap the rewards financially to create and maintain this Pedestrian Mall, no additional assessment district should impose financial harm on these landlords or businesses, most of which are local family owned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Oyster
Oyster Holdings, LLC

Manager
(650)363-7201
(650)619-0673 Cell

From: [Honour Knudsen](#)
To: [publiccomment](#)
Subject: "Redwood City Council Agenda Item 8C - Annual Military
Date: Monday, April 15, 2024 4:40:21 PM

You don't often get email from hknudsen3@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

My name is Helen and I support the Redwood City Police Department's continued use of military equipment. I also support them getting the new military equipment requested in order to enhance the safety and security of our community. I believe these tools will better equip them to do their jobs effectively and efficiently.

Thank you,

Helen

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Estrella](#)
To: [publiccomment](#)
Subject: Public comment on Item 8C
Date: Monday, April 15, 2024 4:48:45 PM

You don't often get email from estrellam94@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good afternoon,

I have lived in Redwood City for about 25 years, and wanted to express my support for the Police Department obtaining the tools and equipment they need to effectively protect and serve our community.

The tools that are being requested during the renewal of the Military Equipment Use Ordinance appear to be reasonable and necessary for the safety of our city.

Drones are being used by many departments in the county already, and would offer huge benefits to public safety with the ability for RCPD officers to deploy them in the field. I believe they would actually limit privacy intrusions by being able to conduct searches using night-vision cameras over a large areas, rather than yard-to-yard searches with officers and K-9s. They would protect our first responders from harm, and could be used as a deescalation tool to prevent armed encounters - allowing officers to gather information and use time and resources to affect a positive outcome.

The "hyperspike" is just a glorified loudspeaker - not sure why that needs approval as military equipment. Definitely has benefits for many situations including crisis negotiations.

The less lethal launchers are already in use by RCPD but these proposed ones allow multiple shots without reloading. This could limit fatal officer involved shootings. We don't want officers having to shoot a suspect because another officer is busy reloading the less-lethal launcher that missed or didn't have the desired effect on the first shot.

Lastly, a kinetic door breaching tool is definitely a better alternative for our officers versus a shotgun being used to breach a door, or using a battering ram. Both could result in injuries to officers or the public, even when used properly. The kinetic breacher is a much more controlled device.

In summary - lets make sure our police department is well equipped and lets get up to date with modern technology to keep our community safe!

Thank you,

Estrella

From: [JL](#)
To: [publiccomment](#)
Subject: April 15 Redwood City Council meeting - public comment
Date: Monday, April 15, 2024 5:28:50 PM

You don't often get email from jl90025@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Redwood City Council members and colleagues:

I'm writing to express my support for tonight's agenda item 8c as it pertains to purchasing drones for law enforcement.

Important are community/neighborhood-centric development and mitigating crime and traffic congestion in residential streets bearing the unequal burden of non-resident thru traffic (e.g. compare Hudson St north vs south of Jefferson; Redwood Ave fed directly by two highway on/off-ramps).

As a key example, there doesn't seem to be clear actions taken that directly address, and are consequences of, the May 2023 Redwood Ave gang mass shooting (5 victims, including a minor) during Cinco de Mayo 2023. Residents are still fearful for the upcoming Cinco de Mayo 2024 holiday. <https://www.sfchronicle.com/crime/article/redwood-city-shooting-5-injured-18085785.php>

However, a well-publicized large RWC city response came in to address the Red Morton Park gang shooting (2 victims) that happened Aug 2023: <https://www.kron4.com/news/bay-area/alleged-redwood-city-drug-deal-leads-to-shooting-that-injured-2-men/>

I submitted a request to the City for a grant to help convert my front yard into a community garden.

Solutions that directly address the California covenant of quiet enjoyment are critical for areas like Palm Park and Central that have been overlooked and/or received disproportionately less improvement, e.g. traffic (particularly speeding, illegal exhaust, modified mufflers), illegal dumping, less beautification, etc. Related, as a resident, I've collected a yearlong almost weekly/daily record of such issues and would be happy to share them in the right forum.

Thank you,

Jason Lee
Redwood City resident
Palm Park Neighborhood Association

From: [Mark Alifano](#)
To: [publiccomment](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 8C
Date: Monday, April 15, 2024 6:59:36 PM

You don't often get email from markalifano@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Council Members,

I'm a resident of Redwood City and also an employee of the city, which I have been for almost 18 years. As a police officer/sergeant, I'm very proud to serve the community I live in.

The point of this email correspondence is to show my support for the officers, who risk their lives on a daily basis, and to request that the council vote to provide them with the tools necessary to safely protect our community and themselves.

The items being considered are not new experimental gadgets, they're tried and true industry standard tools to help officers protect our community. Cities up and down the peninsula and all over the US already have these tools and have for considerable periods of time.

If I were only a resident of this community, I'd still be a supportive voice for the passage of the equipment being proposed. Please provide the protectors of our community with the necessary tools to safely resolve conflicts and keep our residents and officers safe...

Mark Alifano

From: [Rachel Swift](#)
To: [publiccomment](#)
Subject: Redwood City Council Agenda Item 8C - Annual Military Equipment
Date: Monday, April 15, 2024 7:00:59 PM

You don't often get email from rachel@acconsulting.io. [Learn why this is important](#)

My name is Rachel Camacho and I support the Redwood City Police Department's continued use of military equipment. I also support them getting the new military equipment requested in order to enhance the safety and security of our community.

From: [Lynn Swift-Camacho](#)
To: [publiccomment](#)
Subject: Redwood City Council Agenda Item 8C-Annual Military Equipment
Date: Monday, April 15, 2024 7:05:53 PM

You don't often get email from lynn.remedy@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

City Council,

My name is Lynn Camacho. My family has lived in Redwood City for 6 generations. I support the Redwood City Police Department's continued use of military equipment. I also support them getting the new military equipment requested in order to enhance the safety and security of our community.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Lynn Camacho

Goodwin Ave., Redwood City



SPEAKER'S CARD

City of Redwood City

Please fill out and submit to the City Clerk to speak to the City Council.

Providing your contact information below is optional, but if you do provide it, it is a public record.

DATE: 4-15 PHONE NO _____

NAME: Joan Dentler - Office of San Becker

ADDRESS: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

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AGENDA ITEM NO. _____ OR SUBJECT Chris Beth

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED (if any): _____



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City of Redwood City

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DATE: 4/15/24 PHONE NO _____

NAME: Rona Gundrum

ADDRESS: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 OR SUBJECT _____

Proclamation - Mrs Beth

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED (if any): _____



SPEAKER'S CARD

City of Redwood City

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Providing your contact information below is optional, but if you do provide it, it is a public record.

DATE: 4/15/24 PHONE NO 415 309 9981

NAME: JEFF BIRDWELL

ADDRESS: 101 Westpoint Harbor ZIP: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS jbirdwell

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 OR SUBJECT _____

Public Comment

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED (if any): _____



SPEAKER'S CARD

City of Redwood City

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DATE: 4/15/2024 PHONE NO 615 471168

NAME: RUSSELL WITTE

ADDRESS: 101 WESTPOINT HARBOR ZIP: 94063

EMAIL ADDRESS russell.witte@redwoodcity.com

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 OR SUBJECT _____

Public Comment

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED (if any): _____



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City of Redwood City

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DATE: 4/15/24 PHONE NO 714 350 3889

NAME: Meegon Boice

ADDRESS: 501 Westport Way ZIP: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS meegonboice@verizon.net Reston road

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AGENDA ITEM NO. _____ OR SUBJECT Public Comment

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED (if any): _____



SPEAKER'S CARD

City of Redwood City

Please fill out and submit to the City Clerk to speak to the City Council.

Providing your contact information below is optional, but if you do provide it, it is a public record.

DATE: 4/15/2024 PHONE NO 801-997-8550

NAME: Taylor Pope

ADDRESS: 1203 Fernside St ZIP: 94061

EMAIL ADDRESS taylor@tmapope.com

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 6H OR SUBJECT _____

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED (if any): _____



SPEAKER'S CARD

City of Redwood City

Please fill out and submit to the City Clerk to speak to the City Council.

Providing your contact information below is optional, but if you do provide it, it is a public record.

DATE: 4/17/24 PHONE NO 801-997-8550

NAME: Taylor Pope

ADDRESS: 1203 Fernside St ZIP: 94061

EMAIL ADDRESS taylor@tmapope.com

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 7A OR SUBJECT _____

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED (if any): _____



SPEAKER'S CARD

City of Redwood City

Please fill out and submit to the City Clerk to speak to the City Council.

Providing your contact information below is optional, but if you do provide it, it is a public record.

DATE: 4/15/2024 PHONE NO _____

NAME: Dylan Finch

ADDRESS: _____ ZIP: 94063

EMAIL ADDRESS RWC.ENJOYER@DKFMAIL.NET

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 7A OR SUBJECT _____

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED (if any): _____



SPEAKER'S CARD

City of Redwood City

Please fill out and submit to the City Clerk to speak to the City Council.

Providing your contact information below is optional, but if you do provide it, it is a public record.

DATE: 4/15/2024 PHONE NO 978 284 9113

NAME: Shishir Bhat

ADDRESS: 500 Jefferson Ave Unit 112 ZIP: 94063

EMAIL ADDRESS shishirbhat@gmail.com

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 7A OR SUBJECT _____

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED (if any): _____



SPEAKER'S CARD

City of Redwood City

Please fill out and submit to the City Clerk to speak to the City Council.

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DATE: 4-15 PHONE NO _____

NAME: Ernie Schmidt

ADDRESS: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 8C OR SUBJECT _____

ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED (if any): _____