



TOWN OF FAIRFAX

STAFF REPORT

January 14, 2015

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Garrett Toy, Town Manager *GT*

SUBJECT: Accept report on the Town's participation in the Excess Property Program of the US Department of Defense

RECOMMENDATION

Accept report on the Town's participation in the Excess Property Program of the US Department of Defense.

DISCUSSION

The Marin Independent Journal recently published an article regarding Marin Police Departments receiving equipment from the US Department of Defense surplus military equipment program (1033 Program). In the article, the Marin IJ reports the Fairfax Police Department received equipment originally valued at over \$240,000 based on a database maintained by a non-profit known as The Marshall Project. Some Councilmembers indicated it may be helpful for the community to know the details of the Town's participation in this program.

The Town began participating in the 1033 program in 2011 and started receiving equipment in 2012 (no vehicles). In essence, staff fills out a form by checking some boxes with minimal information on what the Town would actually receive. At that time, it seemed reasonable to participate since the Police Department would be able to acquire equipment that they needed, but otherwise would not be able to purchase. However, it turns out that most of the items requested were not useable to PD.

About 12 months ago, Chief Morin decided to stop participating in the program, meaning no further items were acquired or will be acquired under this program. During the past 12 months, PD has been working to catalogue and send everything back that PD doesn't have a use for. Some items can be thrown away when not needed (first aid kits, field boots etc.), but many items have been returned or are in the process of being returned via a specific process as required by the 1033 program. In some cases, PD never received the equipment requested.

The Chief reports that the program was much more trouble than it was worth, given the time it has taken to return the equipment. At the end of the day, PD plans on keeping 7 rifles and sights that they use solely for range training, not duty use. This reduces the wear and tear on the rifles stored in the vehicles.

FISCAL IMPACT

n/a