

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE August 12, 2022

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Recent News Reports on the Status of Dallas Police Squad Cars at Hensley Field**

In recent days, the media has aired multiple news reports concerning the status of Dallas Police squad cars at Hensley Field. Specifically, overhead footage from a helicopter displayed the layout of parked “new” Dodge Chargers and Chevy Tahoes and the storyline suggested that the release of these vehicles to active duty were delayed because of “chip” shortages or supply chain issues.

At the time of the reports, 38 Chargers were on the ground at Hensley Field. All 38 of the Dodge Chargers are cleared for deployment and are tied to an activation plan for assignment to Patrol. Earlier this week, (5) Chargers, as pre-planned, were placed into service at Central Patrol and the remaining 33 will activate in the coming weeks as we schedule the retirement of older or unrepairable squads. For these 38 vehicles, there is no “chip” shortage or supply chain issue.

The 10 Tahoes at Hensley Field were purchased as replacement vehicles for SWAT and require additional specialized equipment to complete the police upfit requirements. Availability and timing of receiving this hardware has resulted in a greater than anticipated delay in these vehicles being assigned to SWAT. Currently, the supplier estimates the delivery of this equipment for the week of August 15, 2022, and after receipt of the equipment, the install and release of the Tahoes to SWAT is projected to be 45 days.

These ongoing updates have been provided to DPD. However, should any further information be needed or if there are additional questions, please contact Donzell Gipson, Director of Equipment and Fleet Management, at donzell.gipson@dallas.gov.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob Perez".

Robert M. Perez, Ph.D.
Assistant City Manager

T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Chris Caso, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizzor Tolbert, Deputy City Manager
Jon Fortune, Deputy City Manager

Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager
Carl Simpson, Assistant City Manager
Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer
Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Directors and Assistant Directors