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State of New Hampshire

DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY
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July 26, 2023

ROBERT L. QUINN
COMMISSIONER

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Safety, Division of State Police, to enter into a purchase agreement in an amount not to exceed \$6,588,000.00 to purchase Model Year 2024 Chevrolet Tahoe Police Pursuit Vehicles (PPVs) effective upon Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2024. Funding source: 71.61% General Funds, 20.61% Highway Funds, 7.57% Turnpike Funds and .21% Agency Income.

Funding is available in the SFY 2024 operating budget as follows:

02-23-23-234015-40030000 – Div. of State Police – Traffic Bureau 030-500320 Motor Vehicle (Replace)	<u>SFY 2024</u> \$1,782,000.00
02-23-23-234015-40100000 – Div. of State Police - Enforcement 030-500320 Motor Vehicle (Replace)	\$1,242,000.00
02-23-23-234015-23050000 – Div. of State Police – Commercial Enforcement 030-500320 Motor Vehicle (Replace)	\$432,000.00
02-23-23-234010-54120000 – Div. of State Police – Detectives Bureau 030-500320 Motor Vehicle (Replace)	\$108,000.00
02-23-23-234015-20640000 – Div. of State Police – Substance Abuse Enforcement 030-500320 Motor Vehicle (Replace)	\$216,000.00
02-23-23-234015-XXXXXX – Div. of State Police – Vehicle Replacement Plan 030-500320 Motor Vehicle (Replace)	<u>\$2,808,000.00</u>
Total:	\$6,588,000.00

EXPLANATION

The New Hampshire State Police (NHSP) requests authorization to purchase approximately (122) Model Year 2024 (MY24) Chevrolet Tahoe Police Pursuit Vehicles (PPVs) to meet this year's highly compressed purchasing timeline. Last year, General Motors (GM) sold out of its Tahoe PPVs and closed its order books *in one day*. GM is expected to release MY24 pricing to its dealers in early August, with orders due by early September. This compressed schedule does not leave enough time to provide vendor selection information to the Executive Council for approval prior to the order date. NHSP requests purchasing pre-approval with the understanding that all required steps for State purchasing will be followed as completed in previous years. This process is completed through the Department of

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Administrative Services, Division of Purchase and Property, and include requesting bids from authorized GM dealers to take delivery of the vehicles.

Dodge has discontinued production of the Charger PPV model, requiring NHSP to find a suitable vehicle replacement. After conducting two Test & Evaluation Programs including extensive research, NHSP determined that the Chevrolet Tahoe PPV is the best available vehicle on the market.

The NHSP fleet is in critical condition due to age, high mileage, corrosion, diminishing availability of parts, and deferred replacement purchases. Since February 2023, NHSP has taken extraordinary measures with repairs as well as the first-time use of non-equipped cruisers for supervisory Troopers to keep the fleet active. Even with these aggressive steps, there are often no spare cruisers. Given the condition of the NHSP fleet, it is critical that an order for Tahoe PPVs be placed during this limited production window. The FY24 budget includes funding to purchase approximately (122) replacement PPVs to significantly increase the health of the NHSP fleet and ensure that all Troops have fully outfitted law enforcement vehicles.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert L. Quinn
Commissioner of Safety