

[Administrative Code - Real Time Investigation Center - Waiving Solicitation Requirements For Procurements Using Gift Funds From San Francisco Police Community Foundation]

**Ordinance waiving the competitive solicitation requirements under Chapters 14B and 21 of the Administrative Code for the Police Department's procurement of equipment, technology, and services to support the Department's Real Time Investigation Center, using gift funds received from the San Francisco Police Community Foundation.**

NOTE: **Unchanged Code text and uncodified text** are in plain Arial font.  
**Additions to Codes** are in *single-underline italics Times New Roman font*.  
**Deletions to Codes** are in ~~*strikethrough italics Times New Roman font*~~.  
**Board amendment additions** are in double-underlined Arial font.  
**Board amendment deletions** are in ~~Arial font~~.  
**Asterisks (\* \* \* \*)** indicate the omission of unchanged Code subsections or parts of tables.

Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

Section 1. Background and General Findings.

(a) In March 2024, San Francisco voters approved Proposition E, which facilitated the ability of the Police Department to use technology to fulfill its mission to enhance public safety, protect life and property, and prevent crime. Among other things, Proposition E established that the Police Department shall use technology to the maximum extent possible to improve efficiency and effectiveness in combatting crime, and reduce dangers to the public, subject to the City's policies to protect privacy and civil liberties. (Admin. Code § 96I.2(e)). Subject to these principles and limitations, Administrative Code Section 96I.2(d), authorizes police officers to use unassisted aerial vehicles ("UAVs," also known as "drones") along with or in lieu of vehicle pursuits. Proposition E also authorizes the use of drones to assist in criminal investigations and exempts the Police Department's use of drones under Administrative Code

1 Section 96I.2(e) from the requirements of the City's Surveillance Technology Ordinance  
2 (Administrative Code Chapter 19B).

3 (b) With the passage of Proposition E, the Police Department has sought to expand its  
4 use of technology to enhance community safety, combat crime, and more efficiently utilize  
5 personnel in the midst of an ongoing staffing shortage. In March 2024, the Police Department  
6 launched the Real Time Investigation Center (RTIC), a real-time intelligence hub where  
7 officers simultaneously use technology including drones, Automated License Plate Readers,  
8 public safety cameras and other crime-fighting tools to help protect the community. The RTIC  
9 allows the Police Department to leverage technology, data, and collaboration to provide real-  
10 time intelligence to law enforcement officers in the field, enabling them to more effectively  
11 respond to incidents, prevent crimes, and apprehend suspects. Using technology like drones,  
12 the Police Department can rapidly respond to crimes in progress, with officers in the  
13 community directly communicating with teams at the RTIC.

14 (c) The RTIC team has been successful in preventing numerous police pursuits by  
15 following suspects at a distance and making strategic arrests that reduce risks to the public.  
16 Officers in the RTIC have assisted in over 500 arrests. Notable cases involving the RTIC  
17 include an arrest made in the first homicide of 2025. On January 1, 2025, dispatch  
18 broadcasted that a shooting occurred on 17th Street and South Van Ness Avenue and  
19 provided a suspect vehicle description. RTIC located a matching vehicle and alerted officers  
20 in the area, who ultimately tracked the vehicle to a neighboring city and successfully took the  
21 suspect into custody. In another notable case, in December 2024, suspects pistol-whipped  
22 and stabbed a victim in the Stockton Tunnel. Dispatch provided officers with the direction the  
23 suspects fled, and RTIC alerted plainclothes units in the area. Officers observed the suspects  
24 walking toward the Montgomery BART Station, where they were taken into custody.

1 (d) The RTIC is currently located in the Hall of Justice at 850 Bryant Street. Critical  
2 deficiencies render this location unsuitable for hosting a modern, high-tech crime center. The  
3 building, constructed in 1958, lacks suitable electrical capacity and internet infrastructure to  
4 support high-speed, reliable internet for real-time data analytics, video download capabilities  
5 and inter-agency communication. The outdated infrastructure at 850 Bryant Street, reliant on  
6 1960s-era wiring, cannot meet these demands, risking system failures that could delay  
7 emergency responses or compromise critical operations. In its current location, the RTIC has  
8 experienced power and internet outages, and plumbing leaks from the ceiling. The RTIC is in  
9 a windowless room in a concrete structure, which limits cell phone and emergency radio  
10 transmission capabilities. Retrofitting the RTIC's current location for modern power and  
11 internet needs would be prohibitively expensive, time-consuming and disruptive.

12 (e) The San Francisco Police Community Foundation (SFPCF) is a 501(c)(3) non-  
13 profit corporation that is dedicated to supporting the Police Department. The SFPCF's vision  
14 is to provide the Police Department resources to create a best-in-class RTIC. SFPCF's gifts  
15 are intended to help the Police Department procure state-of-the-art equipment and technology  
16 to support and expand the capabilities of the RTIC. SFPCF is supported by Chris Larsen, a  
17 San Francisco native who co-founded the company Ripple Labs, Inc.

18 (f) Through a separate Accept and Expend Resolution (File No. 250722), the Police  
19 Department is seeking Board of Supervisors' authorization to retroactively accept an in-kind  
20 gift from Ripple Labs, Inc. of a sublease for office space for the RTIC located at 315  
21 Montgomery Street through December 2026, valued at approximately \$2,131,543. Ripple  
22 Labs paid-in-full for the lease through December 2026, but is no longer using the office space,  
23 and offered to sublease the property to the Police Department as a temporary location for the  
24 RTIC. The sublease was approved as to form by the City Attorney and executed by the  
25 Director of Real Estate and the Police Chief. The sublease and master landlord's consent to

1 the sublease, effective May 22, 2025, are on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in  
2 File No. 250722.

3 (g) SFPCF has proposed to make a gift of funds totaling up to \$5,600,107 in support of  
4 the RTIC, which are estimated to consist of the following: \$57,000 to support the installation of  
5 fiber internet service at 315 Montgomery Street; \$5,277,107 for the purchase of 12 docks and  
6 12 drones, related software and services, and data integration software for the RTIC; and  
7 \$266,000 for Police Department employee parking fees near 315 Montgomery Street at the  
8 St. Mary's Square Garage owned by the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Authority.

9 (h) In addition, SFPCF has proposed to give the Police Department in-kind gifts  
10 totaling approximately \$1,649,921, comprised of installation of a video wall and related  
11 services for the RTIC, valued at approximately \$1,194,770; IT professional services for the  
12 RTIC, valued at approximately \$50,000; network connectivity and related services for the  
13 RTIC, valued at approximately \$294,156; and computer equipment for Police Department  
14 employee use at the RTIC, valued at approximately \$110,995.

15 (i) SFPCF has also proposed to make an additional gift of funds to the Police  
16 Department to cover other incidental costs, such as the installation of card readers at 315  
17 Montgomery, internet services, moving expenses, and potential additional facilities costs.  
18 These costs are currently undetermined.

19 (j) Through a separate Accept and Expend Resolution (File No. 250723), the Police  
20 Department is seeking Board of Supervisors' approval to accept and expend SFPCF's gifts of  
21 equipment, services, and funds totaling approximately \$7,250,028, and future gifts to support  
22 the RTIC.

23 (k) The Police Commission authorized the acceptance of the gifts from SFPCF and  
24 Ripple Labs, Inc. at its meeting on June 4, 2025. The Police Commission's approval is on file  
25 with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 250723.

(l) Given the availability of the SFPCF gift funds to support expansion of the RTIC, the limited term of the sublease, and the findings above, it is essential and in the public interest to allow the Police Department to promptly use the gift funds to acquire and begin using the technology and equipment for the RTIC. The Police Department must procure license and maintenance services for the gifted software and equipment, and the City's normal solicitation process would consume additional resources and time. The time required to conduct a solicitation process will jeopardize the Police Department's ability to utilize the gifted sublease for the RTIC.

## Section 2. Waiver of Competitive Solicitation Requirements.

The competitive solicitation requirements of Administrative Code Chapters ~~14B~~ and 21 shall not apply to the Police Department's purchase of equipment, technology, or services to support the RTIC using the funds gifted by SFPCF, including but not limited to the Police Department's purchase of docks and drones, data integration software, and related services for the RTIC.

//

//

//

//

//

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 0
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 0
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
DAVID CHIU, City Attorney

n:\legana\as2025\2500358\01855748.docx