



VANCOUVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

REPORT TO THE VANCOUVER POLICE BOARD

REPORT DATE: May 2, 2013
BOARD MEETING DATE: June 18, 2013
BOARD REPORT # 1306V01
In Camera/Confidential

TO: Vancouver Police Board
FROM: Jim Chu, Chief Constable
SUBJECT: New VPD Patrol Vehicle Design

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Vancouver Police Board receives this report for information.

SUMMARY:

The Vancouver Police Department (VPD) is in the process of replacing its marked patrol vehicles. The previous Ford Crown Victoria, which is no longer being manufactured, will be replaced with the Chrysler Dodge Charger. The VPD also took the opportunity to explore different design options for the new patrol vehicle and five design options were developed. A survey of all VPD staff showed that the most preferred option was Design #4 (see appendix).

DISCUSSION:

The VPD's Fleet Services embarked on a search for a replacement patrol vehicle for the Ford Crown Victoria, which is no longer manufactured. The Ford Police Interceptor and Dodge Charger Pursuit were identified as candidate replacement vehicles. They both provide improved fuel economy and a corresponding reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. Two Interceptors and two Chargers were outfitted and added to the fleet rotation in 2012. Members were given the opportunity to test-drive each vehicle and provide feedback via an on-line survey. The majority of respondents preferred the Charger over the Interceptor, primarily for its ergonomics and better-suited cabin.

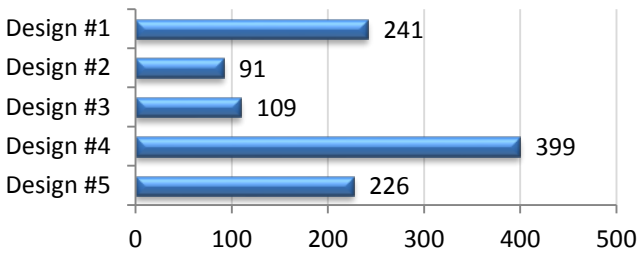
The need to identify a replacement patrol vehicle also provided the opportunity to redesign the outward markings and colours of the VPD patrol vehicle. The markings and design of the Charger was determined by a Department-wide survey that requested the membership's feedback on five possible designs developed by the Community and Public Affairs Section (see Appendix) using the following criteria:

- The design be distinctly VPD and not a copy of other agencies
- It should look professional and reflect the VPD's brand of Beyond the Call service

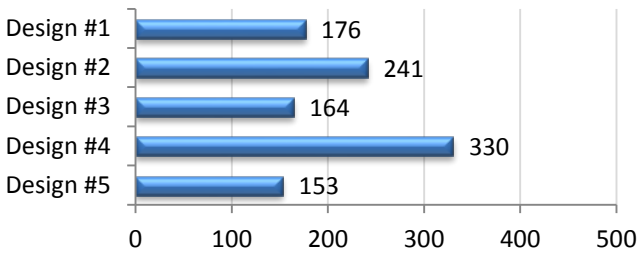
- It should reflect the VPD's reputation for being modern, innovative and forward-looking
- It should be clearly visible and identifiable as a Canadian police vehicle

The Department-wide survey asked respondents to choose their most preferred and second preferred option of the five vehicle designs provided. As the following tables show, design #4 was the most preferred option (37%) and the second preferred option (31%).

Most Preferred Option



Second Preferred Option



Fleet Services is planning for approximately 108 cars to arrive commencing late fall 2013 and the end of 2014. Delays in contract negotiations between the City of Vancouver and Chrysler, and delays in obtaining Bid Committee approval and City Council approval, have combined to push Fleet's order out of the 2013 build program and into the 2014 build program. The 2014 build does not start until August 30, 2013, and as such the first cars will likely be 90-120 days after that.

CONCLUSION:

Design #4 was the clear winner by a wide margin both in terms of being members' first choice as well as their second choice. At this stage the earliest that these new marked vehicles will be on patrol is early in 2014.

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Submitting Executive Member: DCC Warren Lemcke

 (signature) Date: _____

Appendix



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