

RESOLUTION NO. 11-2026
A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTH BEND INDIANA BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
APPROVING THE DONATION OF POLICE EQUIPMENT

WHEREAS, the City of South Bend Board of Public Works (the “Works Board”) exists and operates pursuant to Ind. Code 36-9-6-1 and South Bend Municipal Code § 2-50; and

WHEREAS, Ind., Code 36-9-6-1 gives the Works Board the right and duty to have custody of, control of, use of, and dispose of in accordance with Indiana statutes, all real and personal property owned by the City of South Bend, Indiana (the “City”), including property used by the South Bend Police Department (“SBPD”); and

WHEREAS, the SBPD possesses certain property, namely: used Two (2) 2016 Ford Taurus Police Vehicles (“Vehicles”) which have been retired from service and deemed surplus property pursuant to Ind. Code § 5-22-22-12; and

WHEREAS, Sgt. Aaron M. Knepper, of the SBPD, has made known to the SBPD the significant need for police and emergency services equipment for use by smaller public safety agencies throughout the State for the provision of emergency services; and

WHEREAS, the SBPD wishes to gift the 2 Vehicles to the Northern Indiana Law Enforcement Academy, (the “Donees”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ind. Code § 5-22-22-12(e), a governmental body may transfer title of surplus property to a police department by sale, gift, or another arrangement acceptable to the governmental body and the fire department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF SOUTH BEND BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AS FOLLOWS:

1. The City of South Bend Board of Public Works hereby approves the donation and transfer of the two (2) 2016 Ford Taurus Police Vehicles from the SBPD to the Northern Indiana Law Enforcement Academy, and authorizes staff of the SBPD to work with the Northern Indiana Law Enforcement Academy to carry out any and all actions necessary to facilitate the transfer.

2. This Resolution will be in full force and effect upon its adoption by the City of South Bend Board of Public Works.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the City of South Bend Board of Public Works held on February 10th, 2026.

CITY OF SOUTH BEND, INDIANA
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS



Elizabeth A. Maradik, President



Murray L. Miller, Member



Abigail E. Magas, Member



Joseph R. Molnar, Vice President



Breana N. Micou, Member



Attest: Hillary R. Horvath, Clerk

Date: February 10, 2026

701 W. SAMPLE STREET
SOUTH BEND, INDIANA 46601-2890



PHONE 574/235-9311
FAX 574/288-0268

CITY OF SOUTH BEND JAMES MUELLER, MAYOR
SOUTH BEND POLICE DEPARTMENT
SCOTT A. RUSZKOWSKI, CHIEF OF POLICE

Board of Public Works
City of South Bend, Indiana

February 2nd, 2026

Honorable Board Members,

The South Bend Police Department is requesting Board approval to donate equipment no longer being issued to officers with the South Bend Police Department. The equipment in question is two 2016 Ford Taurus Police vehicles. The cars are now ten years old and would not be assigned to South Bend officers.

The two vehicles to be donated are:

- 2016 Ford Taurus – Police Package – VIN: 1FAHP2MK8GG143761
- 2016 Ford Taurus – Police Package – VIN: 1FAHP2MK3JG138216

These cars will be donated to the Northern Indiana Law Enforcement Academy (NILEA). This academy would be responsible for procuring the vehicles and would also cover the decommission of the cars when no longer fit for service. NILEA provides police academy training for nearly a quarter of the State of Indiana at this time, including SBPD. As NILEA expands they have expressed a need for police cars for various training scenarios. NILEA has asked for donations from all participating police departments in our region, and SBPD has these vehicles already decommissioned and no longer in use.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "AKnepper" with the number "2174" written to the right of the signature.

SGT Aaron M. Knepper #2174
Logistics Officer - Support Division
South Bend Police Department
701 W. Sample St.
South Bend, IN 46601
(574)235-9018
AKnepper@SouthBendIN.gov

SERVICE

BRAVERY

PRIDE

DEDICATION

Liability Release and Waiver

I, James Markle, intend to use equipment, property, or facilities ("equipment") owned and/or operated by the South Bend Police Department ("SBPD"). SBPD is donating said equipment to: NILEA, with the transfer taking place without exchange for any consideration. Said equipment is more expressly identified as:

<u>2016 Ford Taurus</u>	<u>VIN</u>	<u>1FAHP2MK8GG143761</u>
<u>2016 Ford Taurus</u>	<u>VIN</u>	<u>1FAHP2MK35G138216</u>

In consideration for the transfer and use of the equipment, I expressly agree to and acknowledge the following:

1. For myself and on behalf of my heirs, administrators, successors, and assignees, I voluntarily waive, release and hold harmless the City of South Bend and SBPD, their employees, agents, instructors, boards, officers, suppliers, and representatives, from any claim, suit, cause of action, cost or expense that I might have due to negligence, personal injury, death, property damage, or loss, known or unknown, arising either directly or indirectly from my use of the equipment.
2. This Liability Release and Waiver shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Indiana and the parties agree that in any action, venue shall lie exclusively in St. Joseph County, Indiana.
3. If for any reason, any provision of this Liability Release and Waiver is held to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision hereof, and this Liability Release and Waiver shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained herein.

I have read this Liability Release and Waiver Form, which is a waiver of ALL liability, fully understand its terms, understand I have given up substantial rights by signing it, and have signed it freely and voluntarily without any inducement, assurance or guarantee being made to me and intend my signature to be a complete and unconditional release of ALL liability to the greatest extent allowed by law.

Printed Name/Title: James Markle, Executive Director Signature: [Signature] Date: 2/28/26
Address: 4500 Montdale Dr. City: Valparaiso State: IN
Contact: _____ Phone No.: 219-940-3405

Witness: [Signature]

**BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
AGENDA ITEM REVIEW REQUEST FORM**

Date	February 2 nd , 2026	Department	SBPD
Name	Sgt. Aaron M. Knepper #2174	Phone Extension	9018
BPW Date	February 10 th , 2026		

Required Prior to Submittal to Board

Diversity Compliance and Inclusion Officer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Officer Name	
BPW Attorney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Attorney Name	Michael Schmidt
Dept. Attorney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Attorney Name	Kylie Connell
Purchasing	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Check the Appropriate Item Type – Required for All Submissions

<input type="checkbox"/> Professional Services Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/> Contract	<input type="checkbox"/> Proposal	
<input type="checkbox"/> Open Market Contract	<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Addendum	<input type="checkbox"/> Special Purchase, QPA	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bid Opening	<input type="checkbox"/> Bid Award	<input type="checkbox"/> Req. to Advertise	<input type="checkbox"/> Title Sheet
<input type="checkbox"/> Quote Opening	<input type="checkbox"/> Quote Award	<input type="checkbox"/> Reject Bids/Quotes	
<input type="checkbox"/> Proposal Opening	<input type="checkbox"/> C/O & PCA No. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> PCA	
<input type="checkbox"/> Chg. Order, No. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Control	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resolution	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:		<input type="checkbox"/> Ease./Encroach	

Required Information

Company or Vendor Name	Northern Indiana Law Enforcement Academy (NILEA)		
New Vendor	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> If Yes, Approved by Purchasing	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
MBE/WBE Contractor	<input type="checkbox"/> MBE	Completed E-Verify Form Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
	<input type="checkbox"/> WBE		<input type="checkbox"/> No
Project Name	Donation of Unusable Equipment (2 SBPD Police Vehicles)		
Project Number	_____		
Funding Source	_____		
Account No.	_____		
Amount	_____		
Terms of Contract	_____		
Purpose/Description	<u>Requesting Board approval to donate equipment no longer used by the South Bend Police Department. The items are two 2016 Ford Taurus Police Vehicles. These cars are no longer needed by SBPD but can be utilized by the police academy until the end of their service life.</u>		

For Change Orders Only

Amount of	<input type="checkbox"/>	Increase	\$	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Decrease	(\$)	
Previous Amount			\$	
		Increase		%
Current Percent of Change:		Decrease		(%)
New Amount			\$	
		Increase		%
Total Percent of Change:		Decrease		(%)
Time Extension Amount:				
New Completion Date:				