

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Yadi  
**Date Submitted:** 01/23/2023 11:28 PM  
**Council File No:** 22-1438  
**Comments for Public Posting:** No killer robots! LA is not a war zone. Killer robots have no place here and this Boston Dynamics “Quadruped Unmanned Ground Vehicle” use is not in compliance with AB 481.

# NO KILLER ROBOTS!

**LA is not a war zone.** Killer robots have no place here and this Boston Dynamics “Quadruped Unmanned Ground Vehicle” use is not in compliance with AB 481.

I am against giving the LAPD lethal robots and other military weaponry. These weapons threaten the privacy and safety of city residents and visitors. 1,054 people<sup>1</sup> have been killed by police in the past year, averaging more than 3 per day. This is happening despite having the strongest law in the country governing police use of deadly force.<sup>2</sup>

Killer robot SPOT - with the ability to carry payloads like explosives - can easily become another extension of escalating use of deadly force. Furthermore, AB 481<sup>3</sup> requires law enforcement agencies across the state to publish inventories and create use policies for militarized equipment, including tear gas, assault rifles, armored vehicles, drones, and robots - regardless of source of equipment. Gifting SPOT does not mean LAPD gets to circumvent the law or public transparency.

LAPD is required to propose use policies for existing military equipment - including SPOT. These use policies must be considered, approved, or rejected by civilian elected officials - LA City Council - in public hearings and with public input.

Where is the LAPD use policy for SPOT?

- What policies will constrain officer discretion as to when robots will be deployed?
- What de-escalation tactics should be used in the context of police robotics?
- What rules govern the use of non-deadly force?
- What are the mechanisms for accountability?
- How will LAPD mitigate operational risks?
- What procedures will govern the decision to deploy robotic force?
- How will the program’s effectiveness be assessed?
- Is it OK to use SPOT around children? On the playground?

I urge you to halt on the authorization of SPOT and not let the killer robot dog out until these and other important questions have been answered and the residents of Los Angeles have had an opportunity to make their voices heard.

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Yadi

Los Angeles City Public Safety Committee Meeting

January 24, 2023

Agenda item 4. 22-1438 SPOT Boston Dynamics Robot gifted by Police Foundation

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<sup>1</sup> <https://mappingpoliceviolence.us/>

<sup>2</sup> [https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes\\_displaySection.xhtml?sectionNum=835a&lawCode=PEN](https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?sectionNum=835a&lawCode=PEN)

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.afsc.org/content/ab481-advocacy-toolkit>