



Updated June 2, 2026

Joint Light Tactical Vehicle (JLTV)

Background

The Joint Light Tactical Vehicle (JLTV) Family of Vehicles (FoV) is an Army-led, joint-service program designed to replace a portion of each service's light tactical wheeled vehicle fleets. The JLTV FoV consists of two variants: the four-seat Combat Tactical Vehicle (CTV) (**Figure 1**) and the two-seat Combat Support Vehicle (CSV). The CTV is to support the General Purpose, Heavy Guns Carrier, and Close Combat Weapons Carrier missions. The CSV is to support the Utility/Shelter Carrier mission. The JLTV is transportable by a range of lift assets, including rotary-wing aircraft.

Program Background

In August 2015, the Army awarded Oshkosh Defense a \$6.7 billion low-rate initial production (LRIP) contract to procure the initial 16,901 vehicles for the Army and Marine Corps. In June 2019, the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisitions, Logistics, and Technology) approved Army JLTV full-rate production (FRP). The Army planned for a follow-on FRP contract awarded to a single vendor in the fourth quarter of FY2022. It reportedly was to be a competitive five-year contract with five one-year options for about 30,000 JLTVs and 10,000 JLTV trailers. The Army began fielding LRIP JLTVs to units in April 2019, and Marine Corps units received their first LRIP JLTVs in February 2019.

JLTV Combat Tactical Vehicle (CTV)

Figure 1. JLTV Combat Tactical Vehicle Variant



Source: Kris Osborn, "JLTV Program Moves into EMD Phase," U.S. Army, October 18, 2012, accessed May 13, 2026, https://www.army.mil/article/89507/jltv_program_moves_into_emd_phase.

JLTV Follow-On Contract

The Army originally planned to award a follow-on JLTV FRP contract to a single vendor in the fourth quarter of FY2022. The Army later pushed back the due date for

companies to bid on the JLTV follow-on contract based on requests from industry. The Army had planned to award the single vendor contract in December 2022. Because the Army owns the technical data for the JLTV, it was able to conduct a competition to determine if other vendors could build the vehicle at a lower price than Oshkosh.

JLTV Follow-On Contract Awarded to AM General

On February 9, 2023, the Army awarded the JLTV follow-on production contract, valued at more than \$8 billion, to AM General instead of Oshkosh. The contract included five base ordering years and five one-year optional ordering periods for both U.S. and foreign military sales. According to the provisions of the contract, AM General was to produce up to 20,682 JLTVs and up to 9,883 trailers. AM General-produced JLTVs reportedly are intended to have additional capabilities, including an automated guided vehicle system, radio frequency identification, and Global Positioning System (GPS) capability. In addition, the vehicles reportedly are to feature updated enhanced corrosion protection and improved fuel efficiency. The new JLTVs reportedly are to be produced at AM General's Mishawaka, IN, manufacturing facility, with deliveries expected to begin in about 17 months.

Army Cancels JLTV Program

On May 1, 2025, Secretary of the Army Dan Driscoll and then Chief of Staff of the Army General Randy A. George published "Letter to the Force: Army Transformation Initiative." The Army Transformation Initiative directive stated, among other things, that the Army "will cancel procurement of outdated crewed attack aircraft such as the AH-64D [and] excess ground vehicles like the HMMWV [High Mobility, Multi-Wheeled vehicle] and JLTV."

According to a May 2, 2025, AM General press release,

At this time, AM General has backlog for deliveries of vehicles through 2027 and AM General remains committed to meeting our contractual delivery requirements. As we work to understand the significance of the DoD's recent communications, we will continue to operate our HUMVEE and JLTV A2 assembly lines and our Aftermarket Fulfillment facility as normal to meet our contractual requirements and serve the Warfighter.

JLTV Contract Termination

Reportedly, the Army plans to procure no additional JLTVs beyond the 250 JLTVs delivered to the Army in January 2025. Army leaders reportedly noted that this would not break the JLTV contract with AM General and that there would be no cancellation costs, further explaining that

[this] ‘is a contract where you buy in tranches, and the last tranche that we bought was in January. We will do no future procurement buys for the Army....’ The Army already has enough JLTVs in its armored, heavy and Stryker formations ... and it’s moving to incorporate Infantry Squad Vehicles into its lighter formations.

Army Testimony on JLTV Cancellation

Reportedly, during May 13, 2025, testimony to the House Armed Services Readiness Subcommittee, then Vice Chief of Staff of the Army General James Mingus stated that

- The JLTV will “not go away overnight” but rather the divestment will occur “over time.”
- The Army has acquired 20,000 JLTVs, and more are scheduled to come off the production line.
- By recouping and ceasing further JLTV procurement, the Army plans to reinvest those funds to more rapidly modernize light formations.
- The Marines may still elect to purchase JLTVs, and Foreign Military Sales could continue.

Marine Corps Concerns

Reportedly, during a June 24, 2025, posture hearing, the Commandant of the Marine Corps noted that the Marines will have to buy fewer JLTVs “going forward in the wake of the Army’s decision to end its procurement of the platform.” He also reportedly remarked that “the Marines were not consulted on the Army’s JLTV decision and that average per unit cost for the vehicle will go up.”

Marines Considering a Second JLTV Supplier

Reportedly, the Marine Corps is considering adding another supplier to its JLTV program. According to a May 27, 2026, request for information (RFI), the Marines are seeking information from vendors capable of delivering “mature, production-ready, rapidly fieldable capabilities.” The Marine Corps reportedly plans to replace its entire HMMWV fleet with JLTVs, reportedly noting that the Marine Corps has fielded half of its JLTV requirement and “will continue to procure vehicles to fulfill its remaining acquisition objective.”

FY2027 JLTV Budget Request

According to Department of Defense (DOD)—which is “using a secondary Department of War designation” under Executive Order 14347 dated September 5, 2025—budget documents, the Armed Services requested FY2027 funding detailed in **Table 1**.

Table 1. FY2027 JLTV Budget Request

Funding Category	Total Request (\$M)	Total Request (Qty.)
RDT&E USA	\$2.8	—
RDT&E USMC	\$2.4	—
Procurement USA	—	—
Procurement USAF	\$103.3	106
Procurement USN	—	—
Procurement USMC	\$244.9	341

Source: FY2027 Department of War, Budget Program Acquisition Cost by Weapons System, https://comptroller.war.gov/Portals/45/Documents/defbudget/FY2027/FY2027_Weapons.pdf, accessed May 11, 2026.

Note: RDT&E = Research, Development, Test and Evaluation.

Potential Issues for Congress

- What are the Army’s plans to sustain JLTVs already in service? How will spare JLTV parts and components be procured?
- How will the Army’s decision to cancel the JLTV program without consulting the Services and the resulting unplanned increased unit procurement cost impact the Marines’ total planned JLTV acquisition requirements and the Marines’ ground mobility strategy?
- As JLTV is a joint program, how will the Army’s cancellation also affect the Marines’, Navy’s, and Air Force’s JLTV procurement and sustainment requirements?
- How does the JLTV cancellation affect the Army’s overall tactical wheeled vehicle fleet?
- What is the Army’s expected cost savings associated with cancelling the JLTV program?
- How will the JLTV cancellation affect the tactical wheeled vehicle industrial base, particularly small business suppliers?

Andrew Feickert, Specialist in Military Ground Forces
Ebrima M’Bai, U.S. Army Fellow

Disclaimer

This document was prepared by the Congressional Research Service (CRS). CRS serves as nonpartisan shared staff to congressional committees and Members of Congress. It operates solely at the behest of and under the direction of Congress. Information in a CRS Report should not be relied upon for purposes other than public understanding of information that has been provided by CRS to Members of Congress in connection with CRS's institutional role. CRS Reports, as a work of the United States Government, are not subject to copyright protection in the United States. Any CRS Report may be reproduced and distributed in its entirety without permission from CRS. However, as a CRS Report may include copyrighted images or material from a third party, you may need to obtain the permission of the copyright holder if you wish to copy or otherwise use copyrighted material.