

**CITY OF LONG BEACH**

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

333 WEST OCEAN BOULEVARD • LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90802

May 10, 2005

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
City of Long Beach  
California

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt the attached Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with Rotorcraft Support, Inc., to purchase helicopter parts and service, in an estimated amount of \$500,000 annually, with the option of extending the contract for two additional one-year periods and adding up to 10 percent above the contract amount. (Citywide)

**DISCUSSION**

The Department of Public Works, Fleet Services Bureau, provides preventive and emergency maintenance and daily inspections for the Long Beach Police Department's two EC-130 (Eurocopter) helicopters on a 24-hour, seven-days-a-week basis. The inspection and maintenance routine for the helicopters must adhere to specific Federal Aviation Administration guidelines, as well as the manufacturer requirements. There is zero tolerance for missed inspections or maintenance and staff must be on call for repair calls 24 hours a day.

For the past two years, the Fleet Services Bureau has maintained a contract with AirFlite Inc., an authorized Eurocopter parts and service center located at the Long Beach Airport, to provide the required parts utilized for preventive and repair work, as well as supplemental repair services. Unfortunately, AirFlite informed Fleet Services that they were no longer able to provide helicopter service as of April 30, 2005. With AirFlite abandoning its Eurocopter operation, Rotorcraft Support, Inc., of Van Nuys, California is the only Southern California factory authorized parts and service center for the EC-130 helicopters.

City Council approval is being requested to enter into a \$500,000 contract with Rotocraft Support, Inc., without advertising for bids, for the purchase of helicopter parts and service. This amount is based on projected expenditures and exceeds the prior contract of \$350,000. The expected cost increase corresponds to the age and expected number of flight hours of the helicopters, as well as trends in the repair history. In addition, there has been a 14 percent increase in the labor rate with Rotorcraft Support, Inc., plus a 3 percent base increase in the cost of parts from Eurocopter. The timely and strict maintenance of these aircraft is of the utmost importance to ensure the safety of the City's pilots.

This matter was reviewed by Senior Deputy City Attorney Donna F. Gwin on April 6, 2005 and Budget Management Officer David Wodynski on April 27, 2005.

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TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on May 10, 2005 to ensure that the City has a contract in place as soon as possible.


FISCAL IMPACT

The cost, in the estimated amount of \$500,000, is budgeted in the Fleet Services Fund (IS 386) in the Department of Public Works (PW). This amount is based on projected expenditures. The City will have the option of adding expenditures up to 10 percent above the contract amount, if necessary, for repairs and services. The General Fund will be impacted through increased Fleet charges to the Police Department. All increased costs for the Police Department will be reflected in, and recovered in part, through charges to the Harbor Department and Tidelands.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,


  
CHRISTINE F. ANDERSEN  
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

  
MICHAEL A. KILLEBREW  
DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

CFAMA/AAH  
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ATTACHMENTS

APPROVED:

  
GERALD R. MILLER  
CITY MANAGER