

JUSTIFICATION:

Due to the large number of wildland fires that occurred in October and the extensive utilization of the Firehawk helicopters, the maintenance inspections will be required sooner than normal. The increased fire activity created an unusually heavy backlog for our helicopter maintenance staff and consequently, they are unable to perform this inspection.

In order to have the helicopter available at the earliest possible time, we are requesting Sikorsky to provide the necessary personnel to perform the inspection at our Barton Heliport facility.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

The Department's 2003-04 Adopted Budget has sufficient funding for this service. Sufficient Services and Supplies appropriation is budgeted in the Special Operations Budget Unit. There is no net County cost.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

Sikorsky is the original equipment manufacturer. The 500-hour inspection is a mandated component of the helicopter maintenance regime as established by the manufacturer.

CONTRACTING PROCESS:

The Department is in the process of developing a formal contract proposal with Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation for future 500-hour maintenance inspections.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS):

Approval of the recommended actions will enable the Department to continue our efforts of emergency services to residents of Los Angeles County.

CONCLUSION:

Upon approval by the Board of Supervisors, please return adopted copies of this letter to:

1. Los Angeles County Consolidated Fire Protection District
Materials Management Division
5801 S. Eastern Avenue, Suite 100
Commerce, CA 90040
Attention: James Ealey, Chief, Materials Management Division

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
December 31, 2003
Page 3

2. Internal Services Department
Purchasing Division
1100 N. Eastern Avenue, Room 102
Los Angeles, CA 90063
Attention: Joe Sandoval, Division Manager

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Michael Freeman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

P. MICHAEL FREEMAN

PMF:ll

c: Chief Administrative Office
County Counsel
Auditor-Controller