



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HALL OF JUSTICE

ROBERT G. LUNA, SHERIFF



March 19, 2024

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

64 March 19, 2024

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

JEFF LEVINSON
INTERIM EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY PURCHASING AGENT ON BEHALF OF THE SHERIFF TO PURCHASE ONE REPLACEMENT RESCUE HELICOPTER, ACQUIRE ONE SALVAGE RESCUE HELICOPTER AIRFRAME, AND APPROVE AN APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT FISCAL YEAR 2023-24 (ALL DISTRICTS) (4 VOTES)

SUBJECT

The Los Angeles County (County) Sheriff's Department (Department) is requesting Board approval of an appropriation adjustment and authorize the Internal Services Department, in its capacity, as the County Purchasing Agent (CPA) to (1) acquire one pre-owned and refurbished Airbus AS-332-L1 rescue helicopter (Rescue Helicopter) to replace a similar Department aircraft lost in a flight accident on March 19, 2022, and (2) acquire one salvaged airframe of the same model to use as a source for difficult-to-find parts and equipment. Approval of the recommended actions will cost approximately \$16.5 million. The purchase(s) will be funded with the insurance proceeds from the aforementioned loss.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Authorize the CPA to proceed with the sole source/brand specific acquisition of a replacement Rescue Helicopter upon identification of a qualified pre-owned replacement.

211 WEST TEMPLE STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

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2. Authorize the Sheriff, or his designee, to execute a letter of intent, as necessary, to acquire the qualified replacement Rescue Helicopter.
3. Authorize the Sheriff to issue a monetary deposit and/or fractional payments towards the selling price prior to receiving delivery of the replacement Rescue Helicopter, as applicable.
4. Authorize the CPA to execute a purchase order to acquire one salvaged Rescue Helicopter to disassemble and repurpose difficult-to-find parts and equipment utilizing any remaining funds from the insurance proceeds.
5. Approve an appropriation adjustment to transfer \$16,575,000 from the Committed for Capital Asset to the Department to fund the purchase of a search and rescue helicopter.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommended actions will prepare the Department to effectively execute the purchase of a serviceable Rescue Helicopter in a market where the demand for previously owned aircraft is exceptionally high and aircraft in serviceable pre-owned condition are acquired quickly by waiting buyers with funding on hand. The Department has forfeited two opportunities to purchase a replacement due to the inability to enter negotiations from a credible financial position of being able to consummate the purchase transaction.

The proposed recommendations will allow the County to establish a competitive foundation upon which to acquire a replacement Rescue Helicopter, thereby restoring the Department's rescue fleet to its previous total of three operational aircraft as necessary for public and flight crew safety.

The Department will utilize its existing Board-approved helicopter maintenance and engineering master services agreement (MSA) to issue a work order bid solicitation to qualified MSA contractors to perform any necessary modifications and equipment installation (completion services) to bring the replacement Rescue Helicopter to the performance specifications required for the Department's law enforcement search and rescue mission.

Background

The Department has historically operated three Rescue Helicopters in conformance with a prudent industry-standard maintenance rotation intended to minimize operational risk for the air rescue program.

The acquisition of an airworthy replacement Rescue Helicopter, along with the acquisition of a suitable salvaged airframe, is increasingly critical because the Department's two Rescue Helicopters remaining in service are accumulating a disproportionate balance of flight hours. With increased flight time comes a need for more frequent maintenance, which is being impeded by extended lead times on parts, thereby extending the downtime of each of the two-remaining aircraft. The extended downtime undermines the Department's ability to perform its core public safety and rescue missions.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions are consistent with the principles of the County's Strategic Plan, Strategy III.3.2 – Manage and Maximize County Assets, by effectively maximizing the use of County assets in ways that are fiscally responsible and by enhancing the safety and productivity of the Department's search and rescue helicopter service.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Funding for this project will be processed via the appropriation adjustment. The estimated costs for one replacement Rescue Helicopter, one salvage Rescue Helicopter airframe, and third-party completion services will cost approximately \$16,575,000. If deemed beneficial, the Department may augment the insurance settlement proceeds with existing General Support budget unit appropriation. The remaining funds will be returned to designation should the project extend into multiple budgetary cycles.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

On October 16, 2001, the Board approved the classification categories for fixed assets (now referred to as capital assets) and established the requirement for County departments desiring to purchase major capital assets with a unit cost of \$250,000 or more to obtain Board approval prior to submitting the requisition to the CPA.

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CONTRACTING PROCESS

This is a commodity purchase under the statutory authority of the CPA. The purchase will be requisitioned through and accomplished by the CPA in accordance with the County's sole source/brand specific policies and the authorizations granted in this letter.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of the recommended actions before the Board will substantially improve the Department's ability to timely engage sellers from a credible negotiating position to purchase a replacement Rescue Helicopter. A prompt acquisition will allow the resumption of the higher previous level of air rescue service the Department desires to provide again to the residents of the County.

CONCLUSION

Upon Board approval, please return a copy of the adopted Board letter to the Department's Contracts Unit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "R. Luna". The signature is written in a cursive style.

ROBERT G. LUNA
SHERIFF

FY 2023-24

9/28/2023

Justification

Cluster PUBLIC SAFETY
 Type of Change BUDGET ADJUSTMENT
 Department Impacted Sheriff
 Program Impacted Helicopter Replacement
 Funding Type ONE-TIME
 Type of Adjustment MINISTERIAL CHANGES
 Change in Budgeted Positions
 Votes

Reflects an increase in Capital Asset appropriation in the amount of \$16,575,000 to fund the purchase of a Search and Rescue Helicopter. The appropriation is fully offset by funds set aside in the Obligated Fund Balance.

Sources (Increase Revenue / Decrease Appropriation)

FUND	DEPT	LVL1	LVL2	DESCRIPTION	CAT	OBJ	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
A01				GENERAL FUND		3044D	COMMITTED FOR CAPITAL ASSET	16,575,000
								16,575,000

Uses (Increase Appropriation / Decrease Revenue)

FUND	DEPT	LVL1	LVL2	DESCRIPTION	CAT	OBJ	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
A01	SH	15681	15687	SHERIFF - GENERAL SUPPORT SERVICES		6030	CAPITAL ASSETS - EQUIPMENT	16,575,000
								16,575,000

Appropriation	-
Intrafund Transfers	-
Revenue	-
Net County Cost	-

Explanation of change

Reflects an increase in Capital Asset appropriation in the amount of \$16,575,000 to fund the purchase of a Search and Rescue Helicopter. The appropriation is fully offset by funds set aside in the Obligated Fund Balance.

Manager, CEO Approval