



ANTHONY C. MARRONE
 FIRE CHIEF
 FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN
*"Proud Protectors of Life,
 the Environment, and Property"*

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
 FIRE DEPARTMENT**

1320 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE
 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063-3294
 (323) 881-2401
www.fire.lacounty.gov



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
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January 07, 2025

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

Dear Supervisors:

**APPROVAL OF SOLE SOURCE AMENDMENT TO EXTEND CONTRACT NUMBER FR10569
 WITH COULSON AVIATION INC. FOR THE LEASE OF A HELITANKER
 (ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

The Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County (District) is requesting Board of Supervisors' (Board) approval of a Sole Source Amendment (Amendment) to contract number FR10569 with Coulson Aviation Inc. (Coulson), which will extend the term of the contract for a six-month period from July 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025. The Amendment will allow for the continuation of the lease of a Coulson Helitanker through the calendar year of 2025.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
 CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY**

1. Delegate authority to the Fire Chief, or his designee, to execute an Amendment to contract number FR10569 between the District and Coulson, substantially similar to the Enclosure, for the continuation of the lease of a Coulson Helitanker through December 31, 2025, at a cost not to exceed \$7,500,000. This sum represents the total operational cost including stand-by time, flight hours, portable retardant, gel, and any associated operational costs. The Amendment has been approved as to form by County Counsel.
2. Delegate authority to the Fire Chief, or his designee, consistent with prior delegation of authority to execute amendments, suspensions or effectuate the termination of the contract if deemed necessary, and in accordance with the terms and conditions specified in the contract, provided such documents are reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel.

3. Find that this contract is still exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as previously determined on June 28, 2022.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The District has determined that the use of a Helitanker during day and nighttime operations offers significant benefits for wildfire suppression, protection of lives and property, and increasing firefighter safety. Southern California Edison (SCE) has funded the District for fixed lease costs of stand-by time for a Helitanker since 2021. SCE has agreed to fund the District for 365 days of these costs for the calendar year of 2025; however, the District's current three-year contract with Coulson is set to expire on June 30, 2025. The proposed six-month extension would take effect July 1, 2025, allowing for no interruption in the Helitanker's service availability and will allow for funding from SCE to continue through December 31, 2025.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Approval of the recommended actions is consistent with the County's Strategic Plan North Star 3.G. Internal Controls and Processes, by continually maximizing revenue, managing, and maximizing County assets, measuring impact and effectiveness of our collective efforts, and enhancing County's fiscal strength through long-term planning.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The District, as a Special District, is funded independently from the County's General Fund, and relies primarily on property tax revenue to provide essential fire protection and life safety services.

The cost of the extension is \$7,500,000 and represents the total operational cost including stand-by time, flight hours, portable retardant, gel, and any associated operational costs. SCE has agreed to provide funding to the District for the fixed lease costs relating to stand-by time for up to 365 days for 2025. Sufficient funding is available in the District's Fiscal Year 2024-25 Final Adopted Budget and the District will continue to allocate the necessary funds through the requested contract extension.

There is no impact to net County cost.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

On June 28, 2022, your Board approved and authorized the contract with Coulson for a helitanker lease with an initial term from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2025. Board policy 5.100 – Sole Source Contracts establishes guidelines for amendments to existing contracts when departments do not have delegated authority to extend the term of a current contract beyond its original term, if the extension was not previously solicited for; therefore, the District is requesting approval of this sole source Amendment.

Coulson currently also has Helitanker lease agreements in place with the Ventura County Fire Department and the Orange County Fire Authority in which SCE also contributes funding for the fixed lease costs relating to stand-by time for their Helitankers.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The services provided through this contract do not have a significant effect on the environment and,

therefore, the contract is still exempt from CEQA, pursuant to Section 15061 (b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of the recommended actions will greatly enhance the District's ability to protect lives, the environment, and property in a safe, more efficient, and cost-effective manner.

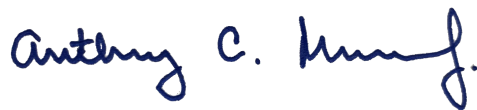
CONCLUSION

Upon approval by your Honorable Board, please instruct the Executive Officer of the Board to return the adopted stamped Board Letter to the following:

Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County
Executive Office - Business Operations
Attention: Marissa Martin Jensen, Administrative Services Manager II
1320 North Eastern Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90063
Marissa.MartinJensen@fire.lacounty.gov

The District's contact can be reached at (323) 881-6173.

Respectfully submitted,



ANTHONY C. MARRONE
FIRE CHIEF

ACM:cs

Enclosures

- c: Chief Executive Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel

**CONTRACT
BY AND BETWEEN
CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY
AND
COULSON AVIATION (USA) INC.
FOR
PUBLIC AIRCRAFT LEASE AND SERVICE AGREEMENT**

This Amendment Number 4 is made and entered into _____ day of _____ 2025,

by and between **CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY**
(hereinafter "District")

and

COULSON AVIATION (USA) INC.
(hereinafter "Contractor")

WHEREAS, on June 28, 2022, the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors authorized the Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County (District) to execute a Contract with Coulson Aviation (USA) Inc. (Contractor), for Public Aircraft Lease and Service Agreement; and

WHEREAS, on June 28, 2022, the Board of Supervisors delegated authority to the District to amend this Contract if deemed necessary; and

WHEREAS, on July 1, 2022, this Contract Number FR10569 was executed by the District and Contractor; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sub-paragraph 7.1 (Amendments), for any change which affects the scope of work, term, contract sum, payments, or any term or condition included under this Contract, an amendment to the Contract shall be prepared and executed by the contractor and by the Fire Chief or his designee; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to, Amendment No. 1, which revised Exhibit B - Pricing Sheet & Exclusive Lease Period, a confidential document, deleted and replaced language in subparagraphs 2.8, 2.10, 2.21 2.23, and 8.5.2, 8.53, 8.8.2, and 8.8.3; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to, Amendment No. 2, added Exhibit B2 – Pricing Sheet & Exclusive Lease Period, a confidential document, extended the lease period and updated pricing; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to, Amendment No. 3, which deleted and replaced sub-paragraphs 8.8.2, 8.8.3, added sub-paragraph 8.8.4 and Exhibit B3; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Board of Supervisors' January 07, 2025, approval the District intends to extend the contract term for six months from July 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the District and Contractor hereby covenant and agree as follows:

1. ADD SUB-PARAGRAPH 4.1.1 TO THE CONTRACT PARAGRAPH 4 TERM OF CONTRACT:

4.1.1 This Contract term shall be extended for six months from July 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

Except as expressly provided in this Amendment Number 4, all other terms and conditions of the Contract shall be in full force and effect. This Amendment Number 4 shall be effective when signed by both parties.

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**CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY**

COULSON AVIATION (USA) INC.

By: _____

By: _____

Authorized Signature

Name: _____

Name: _____

Print Name

Title: Fire Chief or authorized
designee

Title: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

**DAWYN R HARRISON
COUNTY COUNSEL**

By: _____

Jenny Tam
Senior Deputy County Counsel

