



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 22-0442A, Version: 1

Subject:

Purchase authorization agreement with Davenport Aviation, Inc. for the purchase of an Airbus H125 Helicopter.

Recommended Action:

Approval of the purchase authorization agreement with Davenport Aviation, Inc. for the purchase of an Airbus H125 Helicopter.

- This authorization is for the purchase of an Airbus H125 helicopter, as required by Public Works - Mosquito Control.
- Mosquito Control uses helicopters for aerial larviciding, an essential function for ensuring public health, safety, and welfare.
- The current helicopter, a 1967 Bell TH-13T, has long exceeded useful life.
- Pricing is per Government Services Administration Contract No. GS-07F-139DA, including performance bond for the total amount of \$3,995,620.00.
- Funding in the amount of \$4M is in the Fiscal Year 2022 Public Works budget.

Contract No. 22-0376-PB; in the not-to-exceed amount of \$3,995,620.00; Authorize the Chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest.

Strategic Plan:

Ensure Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

2.1 Provide planning, coordination, prevention, and protective services to ensure a safe and secure community

Deliver First-Class Services to the Public and Our Customers

5.2 Be responsible stewards of the public's resources

Summary:

Mosquito Control operates a robust integrated pest management program focused on treating and controlling mosquito populations at the larval stage, before they become biting adults that are a nuisance and can vector disease. The aerial larviciding program is crucial to the success of this program by treating large, or otherwise inaccessible, sites throughout the County.

The decision package to procure a new helicopter for continuance of the aerial program was approved for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022. Purchase of the new helicopter addresses issues of increasing maintenance costs and frequency, and the inability to source necessary parts. The Airbus H125 model allows for increased payload compared to currently owned aircraft, which will increase efficiency. The Airbus H125 is compatible with and will be outfitted with an Isolair granular spray system, an upgraded granular spray system that will allow for more fine calibration and double the current payload capacity. This granular spray system is industry-standard, certified mission equipment with a known track record of reliability.

The H125 model of helicopter is used in several Florida Mosquito Control Districts with comprehensive aerial programs such as Keys Mosquito Control District, Lee County Mosquito Control District, and Pasco County Mosquito Control District. The helicopter is considered a reliable, well-suited aircraft for mosquito control operations. Pinellas County Sheriff's Office also utilizes this model helicopter. The Sheriff's Office will assist Mosquito Control in inspections prior to acceptance and ferry flight to Clearwater.

Background Information:

Mosquito Control owns, and operated, two (2) Bell 47 Helicopters, a 1967 Bell TH-13T and a 1972 Bell 47G-5A. The 1972 Bell is no longer operational. The 1967 Bell is roughly 100 hours away from the next 1200-hour required overhaul maintenance. This overhaul is not feasible due to an inability to source needed parts with enough lifetime hours remaining to meet maintenance requirements.

Fiscal Impact:

Total expenditure not-to-exceed: \$3,995,620.00

Funding is derived from the Public Works operating budget. The decision package to procure a new helicopter for continuance of the aerial program was approved for FY 2022 with a budget of \$4 million.

Staff Member Responsible:

Kelli Hammer Levy, Director, Public Works

Merry Celeste, Division Director, Purchasing & Risk, Administrative Services

Joe Lauro, Director, Administrative Services

Partners:

N/A

Attachments:

Purchase Authorization Goods Agreement