



REPORT TO COUNCIL

City of Sacramento

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915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2604
www.CityofSacramento.org

Consent
Date: January 6, 2009

Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

Title: Assignment of Helicopter Maintenance Contract

Location/Council District: Citywide

Recommendation: Adopt a **Resolution** authorizing the City Manager, or his designated representative, on behalf of the City, to execute a consent to the assignment of City Contract No. 2007-286 from San Joaquin Helicopters, Inc. (Assignor) to Mather Aviation, LLC (Assignee).

Contact: Gina Haynes, Lieutenant, 808-0868

Presenters: Not Applicable

Department: Police

Division: Metro

Department ID: 11001141

Description/Analysis

Issue:

On December 1, 2008, shortly after the permitted annual renewal of its contract with the City, San Joaquin Helicopters Inc. abruptly closed the doors of its Rancho Murrieta facility, citing economic reasons. San Joaquin Helicopters, Inc. is the holder of the existing maintenance contract for the Police Department's two helicopters and fixed-wing air craft. (City Contract No. 2007-286). The Department's helicopters require maintenance every 25 flight hours, which equates to a weekly basis. This created an urgency leaving little time to locate another helicopter maintenance facility within the 50 nautical mile requirement under the existing contract. San Joaquin Helicopter's nearest facility in Delano, CA is located approximately 260 miles away. This made it geographically and financially impractical to continue the contract with the company.

The other two local aircraft maintenance facilities equipped to do work on the Department's aircraft and helicopters were contacted. Those companies are Dyna-Corp and Mather Aviation, LLC. These are the only two companies within the 50 nautical mile requirement.

Tom Buriss, the head mechanic from San Joaquin Helicopter's

Sacramento/Rancho Murrieta facility, is the mechanic who has had sole responsibility for maintaining the Department's aircraft. In late November, Burriss notified SPD that he would be accepting a position with Mather Aviation, LLC. Upon hearing this news, Dyna-Corp informed SPD that the company was no longer interested in assuming the contract between San Joaquin Helicopters and the Department. As Dyna-Corp has no mechanic trained to service the Department's particular helicopter.

Tom Burriss's employment with Mather Aviation, LLC leaves SPD with no other facility within the 50 nautical miles capable of meeting the Department's needs.

Given the urgency of the situation, the Department has signed a Nonprofessional Services Agreement with Mather Aviation, LLC for an amount not to exceed \$99,999. This agreement has allowed the regular 25-hour maintenance to continue in the period following San Joaquin Helicopter's cessation of work under the existing contract.

Assigning the contract to Mather Aviation, LLC would ensure that service to the Department's helicopters is not interrupted and that the mechanic most familiar with SPD's aircraft and helicopters continues to maintain the helicopters. Assignment of the contract to Mather Aviation, LLC would also ensure that the cost of maintenance remains the same as Mather Aviation has expressed a willingness to assume all of the terms and conditions of the contract between SPD and San Joaquin Helicopters.

San Joaquin Helicopters is seeking to assign the City contract, and Mather Aviation is willing to be the assignee. However, pursuant to the terms of City Contract No. 2007-286, the City must approve, in writing, any assignment.

Policy Considerations: The Police Department has conferred with both the City's Procurement Department and City Attorney's Office regarding the possible assignment of this contract. The Procurement Department does not see any issue with assigning the contract from San Joaquin Helicopters, Inc. to Mather Aviation, LLC. San Joaquin Helicopters, Inc. is amenable to assigning the contract to Mather Aviation, LLC. Mather Aviation, LLC meets all of the requirements of the contract with San Joaquin Helicopters, Inc.

Environmental Considerations:

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): This action is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it does not constitute a "project" as defined in section 15378 of the CEQA Guidelines, and is otherwise exempt pursuant to section 15061 (b) (3) (no significant effect on the environment) of the CEQA Guidelines.

Sustainability: There are no sustainability considerations associated with this report.

Commission/Committee Action: Not Applicable.

Rationale for Recommendation: The services provided by San Joaquin Helicopter's former head mechanic, Tom Burriss, have been outstanding. It is vital to the Police Department's daily operations that the continuity of helicopter maintenance services not be interrupted. The assignment of the contract to Mather Aviation, LLC will ensure that the Department's helicopters continue to receive necessary maintenance by a well-qualified mechanic who is intimately familiar with the aircraft. Furthermore, the rates set in the contract with San Joaquin Helicopters, Inc. are economically advantageous to the City. As Mather Aviation, LLC has agreed to take assignment of the contract for the remainder of the term (through November 2010) at the rates set forth in the original contract, SPD will be obtaining the benefits.

Financial Considerations:

If the contract is assigned to Mather Aviation, LLC the rates for helicopter maintenance would remain the same. The assignment of the contract would also result in an overall cost savings to the City because Mather Aviation, LLC's maintenance facility is closer to the Sacramento Police Air Support Unit facility. The proximity of the maintenance facility will translate to a yearly cost savings in mechanic travel time and mileage. The reason for the savings is that the Department would no longer pay transportation charges which were incurred from Rancho Murrieta. This translates to an approximate cost savings of \$8,652 per year.

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD): Mather Aviation is not a certified emerging small business development.

Respectfully Submitted by: 
Gina Haynes, Lieutenant

Approved by: 
Rick Brazil, Chief of Police

Recommendation Approved:

for 
Ray Kerridge
City Manager

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Attachment 1**Background**

On November 13, 2007, City Council adopted a resolution awarding a one year contract with two one-year renewal options to San Joaquin Helicopters, the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, for the purchase of helicopter maintenance and repair services in an amount not to exceed \$634,000. (Resolution No. 2007-816I City Contract No. 2007-286). SPD has worked with San Joaquin Helicopters, and in particular the company's head mechanic, Tom Burriss, since 2000. Mr. Burriss has more than 25 years experience as a helicopter mechanic and has worked on the Department's model of aircraft for the majority of his career. The Department's helicopters are an older make and model which require knowledge not common among civilian maintenance facilities.

The services that have been provided by Mr. Burriss have not only been excellent but have also been critical to the safe and continuous operation of SPD's helicopters. The helicopters provide a highly effective visual capability and crime prevention support to the Department's ground units. Therefore, it is imperative that the continuity of services not be interrupted as this could significantly impact the Department's ability to provide much needed air support services to ground units.

Mather Aviation, LLC and Mather's newest mechanic, Mr. Burriss, meet all of the requirements under the current contract with San Joaquin Helicopters. The Company has been in business for over 20 years and holds contracts with other state and federal agencies such as US ICE/Customs, California Department of Justice, California Highway Patrol and Sacramento Sheriff.

RESOLUTION NO.

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

Assignment of the Helicopter Maintenance Contract with San Joaquin Helicopters to Mather Aviation, LLC

BACKGROUND

- A. San Joaquin Helicopters Inc., the holder of the existing maintenance contract for the Police Department's two helicopters and fixed-wing air craft, abruptly closed its Sacramento/Rancho Murietta facility on December 1, 2008, for economic reasons.
- B. San Joaquin Helicopters, Inc. seeks to assign City Contract No. 2007-286, and Mather Aviation, LLC, the only company with a suitable aircraft maintenance facility within 50 nautical miles of the City, has agreed to be the assignee of the contract.
- C. The Police Department has an immediate need to secure aircraft maintenance services and the Department's needs are best served through assignment of the current multi-year contract with San Joaquin Helicopters, Inc. to Mather Aviation, LLC.

BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

- Section 1. The City Manager, or his designated representative, is hereby authorized on behalf of the City of Sacramento to execute a consent to the assignment of City Contract No. 2007-286 from San Joaquin Helicopters, Inc. (Assignor) to Mather Aviation, LLC (Assignee).

