

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE September 10, 2021

TO Honorable Members of the Public Safety Committee

SUBJECT **September 22, 2021, City Council Agenda Item #79; 21-1214 – Donation Agreement of an Aircraft – Dallas Police Department**

The following agenda item is scheduled to go before City Council on September 22, 2021.

Agenda Item #79; 21-1214

Authorize the **(1)** acceptance of the donated helicopter **(2)** execution of the donation agreement of an aircraft with an estimated value of \$2,500,000.00 from Hillwood Development Company, LLC- to the Dallas Police Department - Financing: No cost consideration to the City.

Hillwood Development Company, LLC has offered to donate a 2012 Bell Helicopter Textron Canada model 407 rotorcraft to the City of Dallas. The Dallas Police Department seeks to accept this donation agreement of an aircraft for our helicopter unit.

The helicopter unit provides an aerial vantage on calls that cannot be duplicated. The crew is made up of sworn officers trained to help officers on the ground accomplish their missions and calls safely. Currently, the unit is staffed by nine sworn officers, operating on a 24/7 basis. On average, the unit responds to approximately 900 calls a month, averaging approximately 30 calls per 24-hour day, primarily for police and assisting the fire department, code enforcement, and city marshals.

Flying with this frequency means an aircraft is nearly constantly having to be taken in for maintenance. The FAA mandates that the aircraft must be serviced at 100 flight hour intervals, with heavier maintenance being done at 600 and 1200 hour intervals. At current flight rates, the aircraft go into maintenance approximately every 2 ½ weeks for several days at a time. Currently, the City has only two helicopters, which means the maintenance intervals cross over, and both aircraft are in maintenance simultaneously. This leaves the City with no operational aircraft for multiple days at a time. Additionally, the current two helicopters are 15 years old, and like older models, suffer unexpected maintenance issues contributing to additional downtime. Adding a third additional aircraft will increase the dependability of the fleet. By having a third newer aircraft, 1/3 of the flying time can be put on the new aircraft, reducing the flight frequency and hours being put on the existing aircraft. This would also see a financial gain of pushing maintenance intervals out to less frequency since flight time would not add up as fast on individual aircraft.

Upon acceptance of the helicopter, the city agrees to undertake the maintenance and upkeep on the Aircraft; use the Aircraft in operations at least fifty-two (52) times during any calendar year beginning with the year 2022; and deliver a written report detailing the maintenance and usage of the Aircraft to the donor within thirty (30) days of the end of

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each calendar year. The Aircraft will not be sold, transferred, or assigned without the written consent of the donor.

Should you have any questions regarding these items, please contact me at (214) 670-5299.



Jon Fortune
Assistant City Manager

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Chris Caso, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizzor Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager

Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Dr. Eric A. Johnson, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity, and Inclusion
Directors and Assistant Directors