



City of Santa Ana
20 Civic Center Plaza, Santa Ana, CA 92701
Staff Report
June 6, 2023

TOPIC: Law Enforcement Helicopter Services

AGENDA TITLE

Approve Agreement with the County of Orange for Law Enforcement Helicopter Services in the Amount of \$1,785,092 (General Fund)

RECOMMENDED ACTION

1. Authorize the City Manager to execute a three-year agreement with the County of Orange, Sheriff-Coroner Department, for helicopter services for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026, subject to non-substantive changes approved by the City Manager and City Attorney.
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute subsequent amendments in year two (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025) and year three (July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026) for the contract amount of the first year of this agreement, \$539,303, plus up to ten percent, for a three-year not-to-exceed amount of \$1,785,092.

DISCUSSION

In October 1994, the City of Santa Ana began participating in the Airborne Law Enforcement Services (ABLE) program. ABLE was a regional helicopter program that combined resources from the City of Costa Mesa, the City of Newport Beach, and the City of Santa Ana. In 2011, ABLE was discontinued, and the City transitioned over to a similar program administered by the County of Orange for this service.

Airborne Law Enforcement Services allow the Santa Ana Police Department to provide a rapid enhanced response to incidents posing the greatest risk to the public, including robberies, burglaries, assaults, and fleeing felons. Additionally, the helicopter is utilized to assist in locating missing persons, coordinating fire department response, and locating individuals in need of rescue. This contract with the Orange County Sheriff's Department will provide helicopter services for the City of Santa Ana from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026. The County will provide 365 hours of helicopter service per year under this agreement. The Santa Ana Police Department will also provide one full-time sworn pilot/observer to the Orange County Sheriff's Department for this program.

Flight hours that are deemed countywide service will not be counted towards the contracted flight hours per year. The following types of calls are deemed countywide service: vehicle pursuits, bank robberies involving tracking systems, stolen vehicles equipped with tracking systems, riots, felonious suspects within a perimeter, assaults involving a weapon, or an officer in need of assistance. The County will provide the City with a monthly flying hour report detailing assigned call time, patrol time, and countywide service time spent over the City's jurisdiction as provided by Sheriff aircrews.

The first-year agreement cost is \$539,302.10. Due to the inherent unknown nature of providing airborne law enforcement services, the County will reevaluate the cost of this service annually and provide the City with an annual cost estimate. If this item is approved as presented, the City Council will authorize the City Manager to execute subsequent amendments for years two and three as long as the annual increases do not exceed ten percent. Any increase beyond ten percent for any amendment of this agreement will require City Council approval.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funding will be available in the FY 2023-24 budget and funding for subsequent fiscal years will be included in the proposed budgets for City Council consideration as follows:

Fiscal Year	Accounting Unit – Account No.	Fund Description	Accounting Unit, Account Description	Amount
FY 23-24	01114420-62300	General Fund	Field Operations, Contract Services-Professional	\$ 539,303
FY 24-25	01114420-62300	General Fund	Field Operations, Contract Services-Professional	\$ 593,233
FY 25-26	01114420-62300	General Fund	Field Operations, Contract Services-Professional	\$ 652,556
Total				\$1,785,092

The annual amounts for Years 2 and 3 represent the maximum increase of ten percent that the City Manager is authorized to approve. However, actual annual increases may be less than shown.

EXHIBIT(S)

1. Agreement with the County of Orange

Submitted By: David Valentin, Police Chief

Approved By: Kristine Ridge, City Manager