



# City Council Report

**Date:** December 11, 2023  
**To:** City Council  
**Through:** Michael Kennington, Deputy City Manager/Chief Financial Officer  
**From:** Edward Quedens, Business Services Director  
Kristy Garcia, Procurement Administrator  
**Subject:** Purchase to Upgrade/Convert One (1) MD Helicopter (Sole Source) for the Mesa Police Department **(Funded by Public Safety Sales Tax Lifecycle Funds and Department operating budget) (Citywide)**

## Purpose and Recommendation

Council is requested to approve the award as recommended.

The Police Department and Purchasing recommend awarding the contract to the sole source vendor, MD Helicopter, LLC (a Mesa business) for \$2,700,000 based on the project estimate.

## Background / Discussion

The Police Department's Air Support Unit helicopter fleet consists of three (3) MD helicopters: one (1) E-Model, and two (2) F-Model MD500 Series aircrafts. On 12/1/2022, Council approved the helicopter conversion, a Falcon 6 (N506MP) due to its age to receive the first conversion.

The Aviation Unit is requesting the second conversion, a N505MP from an E-Model to an F-Model. This conversion will help provide lower response times, enable heavier lifting capacity, and improve high-heat summer performance. Converting this remaining helicopter to an F-Model simplifies the parts inventory, operates on singular parameters, and extends the lifetime of the aircraft.

The work will be completed by MD Helicopters for approximately \$2,153,000. The total estimate of the project is \$2,700,000 and includes Over and Above Costs and a 10% contingency. Additionally, MD Helicopters is a Mesa vendor located at Falcon Field Airport.

The Non-Professional Services and Materials Agreement states aircraft produced under a manufacturer's Type Certificate are subject to FAA Production Certificate regulations, which preclude the conversion being performed outside the manufacturer's facility.

MD Helicopters is the sole source for providing this type of major conversion of their aircraft.

## **Purchase Information**

### Helicopter Overhaul

Action: Award

Procurement Type: Sole Source

Contract Number: 2024070

Local Consideration: Policy did not apply to this procurement method

Protests Received: None

Award Amount: \$2,700,000

Funding Source: Police Department budget through Public Safety Sales Tax Lifecycle  
Funds and General Fund operating budget