

## A G E N D A



## Recommendation for Council Action (Purchasing)

Austin City Council	Item ID:	17505	Agenda Number	49.
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Meeting Date:	August 23, 2012
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Department:	Purchasing
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## Subject

Authorize award and execution of a contract through the State of Texas Procurement and Support Services Cooperative Program administered by the State of Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts with AMERICAN EUROCOPTER CORPORATION for the purchase of a helicopter for the Austin Police Department in an amount not to exceed \$2,625,276.

## Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Capital Budget of the Austin Police Department.

## Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached.

Purchasing Language:	Cooperative Purchase.
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Prior Council Action:	
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For More Information:	Colleen Athey, Senior Buyer, 974-2839
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Boards and Commission Action:	
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Related Items:	
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MBE / WBE:	This Cooperative Purchase is exempt from the MBE /WBE Ordinance. This exemption is in compliance with Chapter 2-9D of the City Code (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this contract.
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## Additional Backup Information

This contract is for the purchase of one new 2012 AS350B3e helicopter. A second procurement will provide the build-out of the airframe to Austin Police Department (APD) specifications. That procurement will take place in the Fall of 2012 and is estimated to be approximately \$1,000,000. The APD currently operates two helicopters. The newest unit is a 2001 model Eurocopter EC 120 and the older unit is a 1969 model Bell OH-58C which is used for backup. An additional helicopter is required to ensure that a reliable law enforcement aircraft unit is available at all times for air support, as well as to assist in missions that require multiple helicopters in flight. Current maintenance requirements cause the 2001 helicopter to be grounded between 90-120 days per year. In addition, there are increasing maintenance demands and decreasing parts supply available for the 2001 helicopter.

The AS350B3e helicopter is the primary choice for a multi-purpose emergency service aircraft in the single engine helicopter class due to performance, versatility, safety and low maintenance costs.

The AS350B3e helicopter can be configured and reconfigured based on different types of utility missions, including sling load operations, personnel insertions, firefighting, rescue-hoisting-extraction during flash floods, or for lost or injured persons in wilderness and green belt areas, power line inspections, and critical infrastructure surveillance. The helicopter will also include the ability to be used in fighting wildfires. The helicopter will be equipped with buckets that may be filled from various water sources. This allows the helicopter crew to operate the bucket in remote locations without the need to return to a permanent operating base, reducing the time between successive drops.

The Bell OH-58C will be used in a reserve role and will become the backup when either Eurocopter helicopter is grounded. The Bell OH-58C will also be used as the primary aircraft for certain missions that do not require the specialized law enforcement equipment on the other aircraft: photo, surveillance, simple command, and control. The new helicopter will allow APD to have two helicopters up at once without having to rely on the Bell OH-58C.

American Eurocopter Corporation is contracted through the CPA to supply helicopters to other public entities statewide as a result of a competitive bidding process. Utilizing CPA contracts provides for volume discount pricing as well as the earliest delivery of equipment.

This purchase of \$2,625,276 and the subsequent contract for the build-out estimated at \$1,000,000 will total \$3,625,276 for the complete finished, ready to use unit. The current estimated delivery of the airframe to the selected law enforcement aircraft completion vendor is April 2013. The total delivery of the completed unit is estimated to be between July and September of 2013.