

**MWD**

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

July 22, 1997

To: Board of Directors (Engineering & Operations Committee--Action)
 (Budget & Finance Committee-- Information)

From: *for* General Manager

Submitted by: Chief of Operations

Subject: Authorization to Purchase a 1997 Beechcraft Baron 58 Aircraft

Edward J. Mysoy
for Malenki

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that your Board authorize the General Manager to execute a sole source contract with Raytheon Aircraft Services of Van Nuys, California for the purchase of a new 1997 Beechcraft Baron 58, twin-engine, six-place aircraft, complete with all standard equipment and avionics.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The District currently owns and operates two aircraft, a 1981 Cessna T-210 and a 1991 Beechcraft Baron 58. The Cessna T-210 is approaching the need for a major overhaul and staff recommends replacing it before that overhaul is necessary. The recommended replacement is a 1997 Beechcraft Baron 58. The Cessna will be sold after delivery of the new aircraft and we will have two aircraft with nearly identical flight characteristics, controls, and avionics. This will minimize annual flight safety training costs and maintenance contracts, while enhancing flight safety. The replacement was approved in the fiscal year 1997-98 budget and funds are available under Appropriation No. 10005 for operating equipment.

JUSTIFICATION

Staff recommends waiving competitive bidding in accordance with Section 8103(d) of the Administrative Code. The Beechcraft Baron 58 uniquely meets our needs and is sold only by Raytheon Aircraft Services. The Beechcraft Baron 58 is the only light twin-engine aircraft available that can satisfy our specifications for payload, speed, and single-engine performance. It will also be nearly identical in controls, flight characteristics, emergency procedures, and avionics to our current Beechcraft Baron 58. This similarity will enhance flight safety and minimize the cost of annual flight safety training for our pilots. It will also reduce the number of aircraft maintenance contracts that the District must maintain.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

The proposed action is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act because there is no possibility that the proposed action would have a significant effect on the environment.

DETAILED REPORT

The District currently owns and operates two aircraft, a 1981 Cessna T-210 and a 1991 Beechcraft Baron 58. The District originally acquired aircraft to facilitate patrol of the Colorado River Aqueduct, the 230,000-volt electric transmission system, and remote distribution pipelines and to move personnel between Desert and Los Angeles area facilities. More recently, the aircraft have been used routinely to transport District directors and staff to and from locations throughout California. This use has been increasing as directors and staff have had to travel to various locations where commercial air transportation is non-existent or impractical and driving times would be excessive.

The Baron meets the dual needs of transporting personnel and patrolling better than other aircraft considered. The reliability and serviceability record of the existing Baron has been very good. In those instances where passenger transportation requires greater range or comfort than the Baron, aircraft chartered on a daily basis are readily available. Acquisition of a far more expensive, bigger aircraft was considered, but it does not meet the District's patrolling needs, is too large for some runways, and is far more expensive to maintain.

The Cessna T-210 was purchased as a pre-owned aircraft in 1987. It is a single-engine, six-place aircraft with a practical limit of five people, including the pilot. The T-210 has high operating hours and is approaching the need for a major overhaul. It was out of service for unscheduled maintenance for three months in 1994 and two months in 1995. In 1996, ten flights were canceled, on short notice, for additional unscheduled maintenance.

The fiscal year 1997-98 budget for operating equipment provides \$703,625 for the purchase of a twin-engine aircraft as a replacement for the Cessna T-210. Staff recommends waiving competitive bidding in accordance with Section 8103(d) of the Administrative Code. The Beechcraft Baron 58 uniquely meets our needs and is sold only by Raytheon Aircraft Services. The Beechcraft Baron 58 is the only light twin-engine aircraft available that can satisfy our specifications for payload, speed, and single-engine performance. It will also be nearly identical in controls, flight characteristics, emergency procedures, and avionics to our current Beechcraft Baron 58. This similarity will enhance flight safety and minimize the cost of annual flight safety training for our pilots. It will also reduce the number of aircraft maintenance contracts that the District must maintain.

JPK/JFM

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Business Outreach Program

Modification and Waiver of MBE/WBE Goals

In accordance with the attached documentation, the Operations (name of Division)
is requesting a waiver of the MBE/WBE goals for the _____ (name of project/procurement)
for the following reason(s): Purchase of District aircraft

- Service or procurement being sought is proprietary
- Direct procurement from a manufacturer
- No known MBE/WBE firms to provide services/materials being sought
- Grant funded project

James F. McKay Assistant O & M Manager 7/11/97
Requester Date
Project Manager/Agreement Administrator

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

Based upon the a review of the information submitted, the Business Outreach Office does:

- Grant waiver of MBE/WBE goals for this project/procurement. However, the solicitation must contain Metropolitan's policy statement in accordance with the Business Outreach Policies & Procedures Manual.
- Cannot be evaluated at this time. More information is required.
Please provide _____ within 10 days of the date below
in order to close this file.
- Denied for the following reason(s):

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

Assigned analyst: Benjamin Ocasio
Ext. 4-250- 7631

- Resubmission granted. However, the solicitation must contain the District's policies statement in accordance with the Business Outreach Program Policies & Procedures Manual.
- Resubmission denied. Please schedule an appointment with the analyst above to review request.

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

Benjamin Ocasio 7/14/97
Approved Date
Business Outreach Analyst

Benjamin Ocasio 7/14/97
Approved Date
Business Outreach Program Manager (Acting)

MEMORANDUM

July 11, 1997

To: Ben Ocasio

From: Assistant Operations and Maintenance Manager James F. McKay

Subject: MBE / WBE Requirements for Purchase Requisition No. 10483 for
New District Aircraft

I am requesting that the MBE/WBE requirements be waived for the purchase of the new District aircraft, as specified in Purchase Requisition No. 10483. This aircraft will be purchased from a major aircraft manufacturer, and there are no known manufacturers or dealers locally that meet the District MBW/WBE requirements for purchases over \$100,000. The estimated cost for the purchase of the new aircraft is \$703,625. We will continue to pursue District MBW /WBE requirements for service, maintenance and parts.


James F. McKay
Assistant Operations and Maintenance Manager