



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: January 14, 2014

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Certification/Operations, Airport Department

SUBJECT: Aircraft Noise Monitoring And Flight Tracking Services Maintenance And Technical Support Agreement

RECOMMENDATION: That Council:

- A. Authorize the General Services Manager to execute a 9-month agreement for Fiscal Year 2014, at a cost of \$63,000, for cloud-based flight tracking services and maintenance and technical support of the Airport's noise monitoring equipment; and
- B. Authorize the General Services Manager to negotiate and execute a 12-month sole source agreement in Fiscal Year 2015 with Exelis Inc., in a form acceptable to the City Attorney and at a cost not to exceed \$84,000, subject to Council budgetary approval, for cloud-based flight tracking services and maintenance and technical support for the Airport's noise monitoring equipment.

DISCUSSION:

Background

The Airport Department has had a noise abatement program in place since 1978 and a noise monitoring system in place since 1991. The noise monitoring and flight tracking system (noise system) is used to monitor compliance with the Airport's noise abatement procedures. It provides data necessary to respond to noise complaints on aircraft operations. The noise system is the key to the airport's ability to extract operational data necessary to effectively respond to citizen complaints regarding airplane noise. In 2013, the Airport had 104,537 aircraft operations (takeoffs and landings) and 511 noise complaints during the same period.

Noise System Maintenance and Technical Support

In 2005 Council adopted and the Federal Aviation Administration subsequently approved the Airport's Updated Noise Compatibility Program which recommended upgrades to the Noise Monitoring and Flight Tracking System. The Airport received a FAA noise grant and

completed phased upgrades in 2007 and 2010. The equipment and service upgrades in 2010 included internet or “cloud based” services. The vendor, Exelis Inc., is the current name of the firm (Rannoch Corp.) that was selected via a competitive bid process in 2006 to construct and install the noise system upgrades. The noise system has performed very well and Exelis Inc. has provided excellent maintenance and technical support services. The noise system software is proprietary and “Exelis Inc”. is the only firm able to provide turnkey services to maintain the entire system (hardware and software).

Due to extended negotiations for this contract, staff executed an emergency purchase order for a 90-day agreement to bridge the time period between the warranty expiration and the execution of a new noise system contract for maintenance and technical services. The cost for the 90-day contract was \$21,000.

Staff recommends that Council authorize the General Services Manager to execute the 9-month agreement at a cost of \$63,000. The total cost for the 12 month period including the 90 day agreement executed by staff is \$84,000. Industry standard for equipment maintenance cost is approximately 15% of the original system cost. The cost of the proposed services agreement is less than the industry standard. Staff was able to secure a renewal option for Fiscal Year 2015 at the same 12 month cost of \$84,000.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Funds for this contract were included in the Airport’s Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015 operating budgets.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

The noise system maintenance and technical support agreement will require less travel to Santa Barbara for onsite maintenance. The vendor is shifting to cloud-based satellite flight tracking which will eliminate the use of local antennas and receivers. This will result in one less vendor trip from the east coast each year.

Note: The License Agreement is available for public review in the City Clerk’s Office at City Hall, 735 Anacapa Street.

PREPARED BY: Tracy C. Lincoln, Airport Operations Manager

SUBMITTED BY: Hazel Johns, Acting Airport Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office