

50 YEARS OF OPD AVIATION 1970 – 2020



CURRENT:

- ▶ OPD HAS TWO 30-YEAR-OLD HELICOPTERS.
 - ▶ INDUSTRY STANDARD IS TO REPLACE AIRCRAFT EVERY 10 YEARS.
 - ▶ INDUSTRY STANDARD TAKEN FROM CHP AND LAPD
- ▶ WHY TWO HELICOPTERS?
 - ▶ HELICOPTER MAINTENANCE OFTEN TAKES WEEKS, SOMETIMES MONTHS, TO COMPLETE.
 - ▶ WHILE ONE HELICOPTER IS IN FOR MAINTENANCE THE OTHER ONE IS OPERATIONAL.



DRONE LIMITATIONS:

- LINE OF SIGHT
 - OPERATOR MUST KEEP THE DRONE IN SIGHT AT ALL TIMES.
- BATTERY LIFE
 - ABOUT 20 MINUTES
- PAYLOAD
 - 5 POUNDS
- CAMERA
 - CAN SEE 2 TO 3 HOUSES AWAY
- OAKLAND AIRPORT AIRSPACE
 - LIMITS HEIGHT DRONE CAN FLY. WHICH LIMITS VISUAL RANGE AND DISTANCE
- MUST RECEIVE PERMISSION FROM THE FAA IN DC.
 - MAY TAKE UP TO 20 MINUTES TO RECEIVE PERMISSION TO LAUNCH

DRONE LIMITATIONS:

- DRONE CANNOT FOLLOW SUSPECT VEHICLE'S ACROSS THE CITY
- DRONE CANNOT OPERATE FOR SIDESHOW, PROTEST, OR SURVEILLANCE
- DRONE CANNOT MITIGATE PURSUITS
- DRONE CANNOT OPERATE IN MORE THAN 15 KNOTS OF WIND
- DRONE CANNOT RESPOND TO A CALL IN SECONDS OR MINUTES LIKE AN OCCUPIED AIRCRAFT
- DRONE CANNOT HANDLE CALLS FOR SERVICE
- DRONE CANNOT FLY PATROL FLIGHTS



THE OAKLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT AIR
SUPPORT UNIT OPERATES AS A PATROL CAR
IN THE SKY

ARGUS RESPONDS ANYWHERE IN THE CITY
UPON BEING REQUESTED OR DISPATCHED



THE AIR UNIT REDUCES LIABILITY

20 TO 1
AN AIRCRAFT IS A FORCE MULTIPLIER.
ONE AIRCRAFT IS EQUIVALENT TO 20
OFFICERS ON THE GROUND

2022 HELICOPTER STATS



- ▶ HANDLED 5,024 CALLS FOR SERVICE
- ▶ AVERAGE RESPONSE TIME OF 28 SECONDS
- ▶ FIRST ON SCENE 91% OF THE TIME
- ▶ 165 VEHICLE PURSUITS MITIGATED
- ▶ 150 FIREARMS RECOVERED
- ▶ 115 FLIGHTS FOR SIDESHOW
- ▶ ASSISTED OFD WITH 75 FIRES
- ▶ ASSISTED CEASEFIRE 88 TIMES
- ▶ ASSISTED VCOC 151 TIMES
- ▶ TWO SCHOOL SHOOTINGS

▶ ARRESTS:	
▶ MURDER	28
▶ ROBBERY	64
▶ ADW	58
▶ CARJACKING	77
▶ 10851 vc	120



RECENT OAKLAND FIRE'S

- ▶ ASSISTED WITH 75 FIRES IN 2022
- ▶ HELICOPTER IN THE AIR IS USALLY FIRST TO SEE SMOKE, FIRST ON SCENE, GIVES BEST ROUTE FOR OFD TO ACCESS THE FIRE, AND GIVES BEST ROUTE FOR EVACUATION
- ▶ OPD HELICOPTER IS SMALL COMPARED TO OTHER HELICOPTERS. IT CANNOT PERFORM WATER DROPS
- ▶ HELICOPTER HAS A PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM THAT CAN ASSIST WITH EVACUATIONS
- ▶ 2022 THE HELICOPTER UNIT ASSISTED WITH FREEWAY FIRES, HILLS FIRES, AND MULTIPLE OTHER FIRES ACROSS THE CITY
- ▶ THE HELICOPTER HAS A FLIR CAMERA THAT IS VITAL IN SEEING HOT SPOTS, ESPECIALLY IN THE HILLS

BUDGET / CONTRACT



- OUR CURRENT BUDGET / CONTRACT EXPIRES JUNE 30th, 2023
- OUR BUDGET HAS BEEN \$750K A YEAR FOR THE LAST 3 YEARS (2020 – 2023)
- WE ARE ASKING FOR \$850K A YEAR FOR THE NEXT 2 YEARS (2023 – 2025)
- COST OF FUEL, PARTS, AND LABOR HAS ALL INCREASED

- NEW HELICOPTER
 - \$6 MILLION EACH
- OVERHAUL, REFURBISH EXISTING HELICOPTERS.
 - \$3.5 MILLION EACH
- NEW AIRPLANE
 - \$4 MILLION EACH



COST TO OPERATE: (FUEL & MAINTENANCE)

- HELICOPTER COSTS \$600 DOLLARS PER FLIGHT HOUR
- AIRPLANE COSTS \$150 DOLLARS PER FLIGHT HOUR

REQUEST:

❑ REQUESTING A 2 YEAR CONTRACT FROM 2023 TO 2025 FOR \$850K A YEAR

❑ CONSIDER OPTIONS FOR AGING AIRCRAFT

QUESTIONS

- ▶ SGT. JONATHAN VANERWEGEN
- ▶ AIR SUPPORT UNIT

