

POLICE DIVISION

Metro Aviation Unit

Description

In 1986 the Counties of Henrico and Chesterfield, and the City of Richmond entered into a multi-jurisdictional agreement, which facilitated the use of police aircraft in all three jurisdictions and created the Metro Aviation Unit. As a part of this agreement, the Henrico Police Division is charged with housing the aircraft; supervision of the pilots; fiscal management; and planning the training for the Unit.

Objectives

- The Unit will provide aerial observation and support for all jurisdictions.
- The Unit will conduct patrols of identified high crime areas.
- The Unit will provide transportation of prisoners to and from other jurisdictions upon request.
- The Unit will provide aerial photographs of any location in the metropolitan area upon request.
- The Unit will provide routine and special aerial patrol within the tri-jurisdictional area.

Budget Highlights

The FY2014-15 budget includes \$80,000 for the extradition of prisoners, which is fully reimbursable from the State Supreme Court. The remaining balance of the budget, \$382,000, is divided equally between Chesterfield County, the City of Richmond, and Henrico County. In FY2014-15, Henrico's share of the budget remains constant at \$127,332.

Henrico's Police Division manages the Metro Aviation Unit. This section of the Police Division also handles extradition of prisoners, which is entirely reimbursable from the State of Virginia. The combined budget for Metro Aviation and Extradition totals \$462,000.

The Metro Aviation Unit continues to be a valuable and effective crime fighting tool to the participating localities and the region. The localities continue to increase their usage of the unit and each locality now assigns three pilots to the unit.

The three participating jurisdictions approved the purchase of an additional patrol plane, a Cessna 182, and in July 2006, the Board of Supervisors approved a budget amendment to increase the Metro Aviation Unit's budget for the purchase of the new aircraft. The aircraft is equipped with the latest technology

Annual Fiscal Plan

<u>Description</u>	<u>FY13 Actual</u>	<u>FY14 Original</u>	<u>FY15 Approved</u>	<u>Change 14 to 15</u>
Personnel	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	0.0%
Operation	350,302	422,000	422,000	0.0%
Capital	67,662	40,000	40,000	0.0%
Total	\$ 417,964	\$ 462,000	\$ 462,000	0.0%
 Personnel Complement	 N/A	 N/A	 N/A	 N/A

Metro Aviation (cont'd)

	Performance Measures			
	FY13	FY14	FY15	Change 14 to 15
Workload Measures				
Number of Aerial Transports	24	38	36	(2)
Flight Hours for Aerial Transports	98	155	135	(20)
Extraditions (commercial carriers)	18	20	20	0

including an electronic instrument panel, an integrated spotlight, a forward looking infra-red (FLIR) system, and a video downlink that permits the aircraft to broadcast images while flying for viewing at varying locations within the three jurisdictions. The Metro Aviation Unit's two other aircraft are of varying ages including a transport plane over twenty-five years old and a twelve year old patrol plane.

The Metro Aviation Unit moved to a new hanger with a fuel storage tank in the Sandston area in December, 2012. The facility is 4,500 square feet, three stories tall, includes 1,100 square feet of office space, and houses the three small planes shared by all localities. This relocation provided combined lease savings to the three participating jurisdictions of roughly \$20,000 per year.