

DIVISION OF POLICE

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 Division of Police 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 FY2010-11 budget includes \$55,000 for the extradition of prisoners, which is fully reimbursable. The remaining balance of the budget, \$406,687, is divided equally between Chesterfield County, the City of Richmond, and Henrico County and reflects a net decrease of \$1,000 or 0.2 percent from the previous approved budget. In FY2010-11, Henrico's share of the budget is \$135,561, decreasing by \$334 from the FY2009-10 approved budget.

Henrico's Division of Police manages the Metro Aviation Unit. This section of the Division of Police also handles extradition of prisoners, which is entirely reimbursable from the State of Virginia. The combined budget for Metro Aviation and Extradition is \$461,687.

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

Annual Fiscal Plan

<u>Description</u>	<u>FY09 Actual</u>	<u>FY10 Original</u>	<u>FY11 Approved</u>	<u>Change 10 to 11</u>
Personnel	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	0.0%
Operation	351,682	432,687	431,687	(0.2%)
Capital	0	30,000	30,000	0.0%
Total	\$ 351,682	\$ 462,687	\$ 461,687	(0.2%)
 Personnel Complement	 N/A	 N/A	 N/A	 N/A

Metro Aviation (cont'd)

Performance Measures				
	FY09	FY10	FY11	Change 10 to 11
Workload Measures				
Number of Aerial Transports	41	40	44	4
Flight Hours for Aerial Tranports	159	165	165	0
Extraditions (commercial carriers)	38	36	39	3

Aviation Unit's budget for the purchase of the new aircraft. The aircraft is equipped with the latest technology 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 unit's three other aircrafts are of varying ages

including a patrol plane and a transport plane, which are each over twenty-five years old. The third aircraft is a patrol plane that is nine years old. With the purchase of the fourth plane, the unit uses the older patrol plane for training and as a reserve patrol plane that is used during maintenance and repairs to the other two patrol planes.