

LEGISLATIVE #

110881



POLICE DEPARTMENT
Inter-Office Communication

To: Capt. Lonnie Scott

Date: 3/16/2012

From: Lt. Brian J. Helmersen

Subject: Request for funding

Since the Gainesville Police Department's helicopter was forced to land on Windmeadows Blvd. on December 8th, 2011 because of a loss of power, the engine and other components have been shipped out for inspection. This was due to the main rotor sudden stoppage. All of the components must be inspected for damage. Although the insurance coverage on the helicopter parts is pro rated, there have been other costs associated with the breakdown of some parts.

The main engine was sent to Aeromaritime, ITP Group for inspection. The first portion to be broken down for inspection was the accessory gearbox. In the inspection of the parts therein, several parts were noted in a Technical Estimate that needed to be replaced but the worn/damaged parts were not related to the sudden stoppage, therefore not covered by the insurance. The parts must be replaced prior to further inspection of the engine due to the necessity of the accessory gearbox to run the engine. The repairs for the parts in the accessory gear box are estimated to be \$47,788.25.

Once that work is complete the tests/inspections on the engine can begin in order to try to locate the reason for the original loss of power. Two areas of possibility for the loss of power in mid flight could be a fuel control problem or the governor. Each of those items could cost \$20,000.00 for a total of \$40,000.00 or greater.

In order to keep from having to ask for more funds more than one time from the city commission, I am recommending that on top of the currently budgeted \$50,000.00 for the 1750 hour inspection, an additional \$100,000.00 be requested to cover the additional cost.