

RESOLUTION NO. 07-90

A RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF DEFENSE TO RECONSIDER HIS PRELIMINARY DECISION AND TO INCLUDE FULL FUNDING FOR THE CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF THE V-22 OSPREY PROGRAM IN HIS BUDGET REQUEST TO THE PRESIDENT.

WHEREAS, Bell Helicopter Textron of Fort Worth, Texas, and Boeing Helicopter Company of Philadelphia, employing some of today's most advanced aerospace technology share in the development of the revolutionary V-22 Osprey tiltrotor aircraft; and

WHEREAS, the V-22, without needing runways, will be able to carry heavy payloads twice as fast and as far as comparable existing helicopters; the potential uses of the V-22 and other tiltrotor aircraft in both military and civilian environments are limitless; and

WHEREAS, the aircraft is urgently sought by the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps as a transport workhorse and a versatile new weapon system for the future; and

WHEREAS, the tiltrotor is recognized by visionary leaders in the civilian aviation industry as having many assured commercial applications, one being in the burgeoning area of intercity commuting; and

WHEREAS, because other countries are also pursuing tiltrotor technology, it is expected that the V-22 would have an international market, with its sales contributing to a favorable trade balance; and

WHEREAS, the V-22 Osprey, with its use and spawning of advanced technology, is a major linchpin in the development of high technology industry in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, for thirty-eight years, Bell Helicopter has been an important part of the State's industrial base and its efforts toward economic diversification; Bell currently employs over 8,000 Texans and has an economic impact of a half billion dollars annually, with the company's subcontracts constituting more than 1,400 small businesses located in forty counties throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, despite the many compelling factors, Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney has made a preliminary decision to eliminate V-22 funding from the Defense budget request for 1990-1991, which would effectively halt development and prevent the completion of this vital program; and

WHEREAS, because of the program's progress and great potential, this decision will have an adverse effect on our national security, our nation's preeminence in aerospace development and production, the State of Texas and the City of Mesquite.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESQUITE, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. That the City of Mesquite respectfully requests the United States Secretary of Defense to reconsider his preliminary decision and to include full funding for the continued development of the V-22 Osprey program in his Defense Budget request for 1990-1991.

SECTION 2. Further, as an expression of the City of Mesquite's strong sentiment concerning this issue, copies of this resolution shall be provided to President George Bush, Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney, Speaker of the House Tom Foley, Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, Les Aspin, Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Sam Nunn, and members of the Texas delegation to the United States Congress.

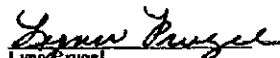
00172

Page 2

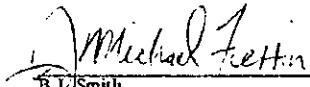
DULY RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Mesquite, Texas, on the 19th day of February, 1990.


George A. Venner, Sr.
Mayor

ATTEST:


Lynn Prugel
City Secretary

APPROVED:


B.J. Smith
City Attorney