(R-2001-859)

WHEREAS, San Diego's naturally rugged terrain and coastline makes, in many circumstances, fire fighting, patient transport, flood rescue and emergency searches and recovery efforts by fire and life safety personnel extraordinarily difficult; and,

WHEREAS, the City of San Diego is one of the few California metropolitan areas without a comprehensive aerial support program which includes rotary wing aircraft dedicated to fire fighting, patient transport and rescue support missions; and,

WHEREAS, the addition of a dedicated fire and rescue helicopter to the City's fire fighting/lifeguard equipment inventory greatly improves the public's safety; and,

WHEREAS, to address this specific issue, the City of San Diego has created an innovative sponsorship program designed to permanently fund a fire and rescue helicopter; and,

WHEREAS, Air Resources Interagency Fire Aviation, Bell Helicopter Textron and Simplex Manufacturing have donated 100% of the costs of the use of a fire and rescue helicopter for 30 days to demonstrate the public benefit of the permanent establishment of a Fire and Rescue Helicopter Program; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the San Diego City Council, that this Council, for and on behalf of the citizens of San Diego, commends Air Resources Interagency Fire Aviation, Bell Helicopter Textron and Simplex Manufacturing for their generous donation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Tuesday, November 14, 2000, be and is hereby proclaimed to be "AIR RESOURCES DAY," in the City of San Diego.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By

Stuart H. Swett

Senior Deputy City Attorney

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