



HB-1 Downlink

Return of H-Item from June 3rd, 2025
December 16th, 2025

HB-1 Downlink

- Availability to stream video direct from helicopter
- Beneficial for special events, protests, critical incidents, etc.
- Valuable for Police, Fire, and Marine Safety
- City Manager to report back on viability and expense with equipping the helicopter



VIABILITY

- Small Airframe (MD 530F)
 - Lower operating costs / less real estate
 - Less real estate = Harder to install components
 - Technology
 - Radio Frequency
 - Cellular
 - Starlink



VIABILITY

- Exhaustive testing to rule out RF options
 - Used by most media outlets but incredibly expensive
- Cellular options including Starlink
- Antennae solutions
- Security Concerns



TIMELINE

- **Prior to June 2025**
 - Began discussing with third party vendors
- **July – September 2025**
 - Collaborated with IS Department to identify solutions
 - Organized and facilitated demonstrations from Trakka, Vislink, Terradek, Peplink, Earthscape, and other vendors
- **October 2025**
 - Had success with two major options
 - Worked through multiple cellular and antennae configurations
- **November 2025**
 - Sent N682 to Hangar One for re-wiring and upgrades for new lights
- **December 2025**
 - Determined best option for Downlink and finalized harness and Mounting options for both solutions





What will this give us?



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EXPENSE

- Three aircraft need to be upfitted
 - First aircraft complete with supplemental funding from Stonegarden Grant and existing funding
 - Remaining two aircraft need to be upfitted to include the following
 - Installation of Starlink
 - Re-wiring / locating of mapping system
 - Wiring for already purchased Trakka lights
 - Wifi capability
 - Downlink hardware mounting
- Total remaining cost is approximately \$230,000.00 to complete all necessary work



Questions?

