Presidential Aircraft Recapitalization (PAR)

The PAR program plans to replace the current VC-25A fleet with a new fleet of aircraft to support the President of the United States as Head of State, Chief Executive, and Commander in Chief. The PAR aircraft will be a four engine wide-body, commercial derivative aircraft, uniquely modified to provide the President, staff, and guests with safe and reliable air transportation with the equivalent level of security and communications capability available in the White House.



Source: U.S. Air Force.

Current Status

The PAR program acquisition strategy was approved in September 2015 after several years of analysis related to risk reduction, requirements, sustainment, and technology and manufacturing maturity. According to officials, the milestone decision authority approved the PAR program to release a request for proposal to Boeing for design and risk reduction studies. The contract award for this effort is planned for January 2016. The program will seek a waiver from the requirement to conduct competitive prototyping before entering system development and to award a sole-source contract to Boeing for two 747-8 aircraft, which will then be modified to meet required capabilities with existing technologies. Program officials stated that they will participate in Boeing supplier selections for the subsystems and intend to acquire data rights to enable competition to the maximum extent practicable for future modifications and sustainment activities. Program officials acknowledge risks associated with the integration of these technologies but stated that the majority of the mission-related systems required have worked together before on different platforms, and many of these systems have legacy or related equivalents on the current VC-25A fleet. The two aircraft will be modified and tested in a phased approach. Once development is completed, the aircraft will be delivered as fully capable to support presidential missions, currently planned for fiscal year 2024.

Estimated Program Cost and Quantity (fiscal year 2016 dollars):

Total program (fiscal years 2010-2020): \$3,210.6 million Research and development (fiscal years 2010-2020): \$1,987.1 million Procurement (fiscal years 2017-2020): \$282.2million Quantity: 2

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Next Major Program Event: Engineering manufacturing and development request for proposal release decision, July 2016

Program Office Comments: In commenting on a draft of this assessment, the program office provided technical comments, which were incorporated as appropriate.