

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 02/27/24

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 24-0170

LOG NAME: 55FWS FY24 BIL AIRPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBJECT

(CD 8) Authorize Application for and Acceptance of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2024 Grant, if Awarded, from the Federal Aviation Administration Passed Through the Texas Department of Transportation in an Amount Up to \$294,000.00 for the Hangar Access Road and Drainage Improvement Project at Fort Worth Spinks Airport, Authorize a Transfer of Up to \$32,667.00 for the City's Match Requirement for a Total Amount Up to \$326,667.00, Adopt Appropriation Ordinance, and Adopt Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Grant Related Agreements with the State of Texas, Represented by the Texas Department of Transportation

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize the application for and acceptance of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2024 Grant, if awarded, from the Federal Aviation Administration passed through the Texas Department of Transportation in an amount up to \$294,000.00 for the Hangar Access Road and Drainage Improvement project at Fort Worth Spinks Airport;
 2. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Muni Airport Grants Federal Fund in an amount up to (1) \$294,000.00, subject to the receipt of the grant, and (2) \$32,667.00 as a transfer from the Municipal Airport Capital Project Fund to satisfy the City's match requirement, totaling \$326,667.00, for the purpose of funding the Hangar Access Road and Drainage Improvement project at Fort Worth Spinks Airport; and
 3. Adopt the attached resolution as required by the Texas Department of Transportation, authorizing the City Manager or his designee to execute all necessary contracts associated with this project with the Texas Department of Transportation.
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DISCUSSION:

On November 15, 2021, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 (IIJA), also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), was signed into law, allocating \$1.2 trillion in new spending of which \$550 billion will go towards investment in our nation's core infrastructure priorities including roads and bridges, rail, transit, ports, airports, the electric grid, water systems and broadband. The infrastructure bill includes \$15 billion for airport infrastructure grants over five years with \$3 billion to be distributed annually. Of this amount, \$12.4 billion would go to commercial service airports and \$2.5 billion for nonprimary commercial service and general aviation airports.

These funds will be available for:

1. Airport Improvement Program (AIP) Grants for runways, gates and taxiways that increase safety and expand capacity;
2. Airport Terminal Improvement program for terminals, concessions and multimodal connections for increased terminal energy efficiency and accessibility; and
3. Air Traffic Control infrastructure to replace facilities and equipment and improve safety, security and environmental standards.

Based on the classification provided by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Fort Worth Spinks Airport (Airport) is eligible to receive up to \$294,000.00 under the program for this Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24). Per the FAA, the BIL will provide "funding to modernize infrastructure, increase equity in transportation, help fight climate change, strengthen the supply chain and create jobs." In Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22), the Airport was allocated \$295,000.00, and in Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23), the Airport was allocated \$292,000.00, with additional funding expected over the next two years, pending appropriation from Congress. Additionally, these grants will operate under the same guidelines as the FAA's AIP which requires specific projects to be identified on the sponsor's application.

Application for and acceptance of FY22 and FY23 funding has already been authorized through Mayor & Council Communications (M&C) 22-0284 & 23-0649, however at the time these M&Cs were written, a project had not been selected. Since then, staff has determined to use BIL funding for the design and construction of a Hangar Access Road, as well as a Drainage Improvement project.

The Hangar Access Road will consist of designing and constructing a road for tenants and vehicles on the east side of the Airport (see attached map) to access future hangars and other development planned at the Airport. This road will provide a direct path to the future development and help prevent vehicles driving on private leased space, as well as towards the active runway.

The Drainage Improvement project will consist of moving current drainage infrastructure to allow for future development, also on the east side of the Airport (see attached map). The current drainage infrastructure runs directly through a usable plot of land diagonally, making this area of land undevelopable. By re-routing the current drainage infrastructure, this will allow for this area of land to be developed.

Both the Hangar Access Road and the Drainage Improvement project are expected to be funded from the FY22, FY23 and FY24 BIL funding allocations.

Funding for the BIL will be a 90/10 cost-split between the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the City of Fort Worth (City), and will be

administered through TxDOT from the FAA. Since no City salaries will be charged, indirect cost recovery does not apply.

Upon award, the grant will increase funding to the Muni Airport Grants Federal Fund as shown below:

Fund	Appropriation Amount	Original Budget
Muni Airport Grants Federal Fund	\$294,000.00	\$294,000.00
Municipal Airport Capital Proj Fund (City Match-Transfer In)	\$32,667.00	\$32,667.00
Project Total	\$326,667.00	\$326,667.00

Funding is available in the Municipal Airport Capital Proj Fund under UNSPEC project.

ADVISORY BOARD APPROVAL - On January 25, 2024, the Aviation Advisory Board voted to recommend that the City Council approve the application for and acceptance of this grant.

Fort Worth Spinks Airport is located in COUNCIL DISTRICT 8.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This contract will be with a governmental entity, state agency or public institution of higher education: Texas Department of Transportation

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendations and adoption of the attached appropriation ordinance, funds will be available in the current operating budget, as appropriated, in the Muni Airport Grants Federal Fund. The Aviation Department (and Financial Management Services) will be responsible for the collection and deposit of funds due to the City. Prior to an expenditure being incurred, the Aviation Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds. This is a reimbursement grant.

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