

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 03/10/26

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 26-0188

LOG NAME: 55FWS FY26 BIL AIRPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBJECT

(CD 8) Authorize Application for and Acceptance of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Fiscal Year 2026 Airport Infrastructure Grant, if Awarded, from the Federal Aviation Administration, Passed through the Texas Department of Transportation, in an Amount Up to \$675,000.00 for Runway Reconstruction and Underdrain Installation, Taxiway Rehabilitation, and Installation of Taxiway Lighting at Fort Worth Spinks Airport, Authorize a Transfer of Up to \$75,000.00 for the City's Match Requirement, for a Total Amount Up to \$750,000.00, 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 Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Fiscal Year 2026 Airport Infrastructure Grant, if awarded, from the Federal Aviation Administration, passed through the Texas Department of Transportation, in an amount up to \$675,000.00 for runway reconstruction and underdrain installation, taxiway rehabilitation, and installation of taxiway lighting 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) \$675,000.00, subject to the receipt of the grant, and (2) \$75,000.00 as a transfer from the Municipal Airport Capital Project Fund to satisfy the City's match requirement, totaling \$750,000.00, for the purpose of funding runway reconstruction and underdrains installation, taxiway rehabilitation, and installation of taxiway lighting 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.

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 toward 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:

- Airport Improvement Program (AIP) Grants for runways, gates and taxiways that increase safety and expand capacity;
- Airport Terminal Improvement program for terminals, concessions and multimodal connections for increased terminal energy efficiency and accessibility; and
- 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 \$675,000.00 under the program in Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26). Per the FAA, the IIJA will provide "funding to modernize infrastructure, increase equity in transportation, help fight climate change, strengthen the supply chain and create jobs." 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. FY26 is anticipated to be the final year of IIJA-supported allocations.

Funding from this FY26 IIJA grant will be used for, but not limited to, the following projects:

- Runway 18R-36L Reconstruction and Underdrain Installation
- Taxiways Alpha and Charlie Rehabilitation
- Medium-Intensity Taxiway Edge Lighting (MITL) Installation

Runway 18R-36L Reconstruction and Taxiways Alpha & Charlie Rehabilitation

In October of 2024, a Pavement Condition Index (PCI) study was conducted on the pavement at the Airport. The results of this study showed the pavement on Runway 18R-36L (Runway) to have a PCI Rating of 64 out of 100, categorizing the pavement as 'Fair' condition.

This information was shared with the Texas Department of Transportation - Aviation Division (TxDOT) to support long-term planning and maintenance of the Runway. Following ongoing discussions with TxDOT, the Aviation Department has received confirmation that funding for improvements to the Runway has been allocated and is advancing.

Along with Runway pavement improvements, this will also consist of installing drainage underneath the Runway, as water pumping has been observed coming up through cracks. These underdrains will direct water out from underneath the Runway and prevent pumping and accelerated pavement failure.

Rehabilitation of Taxiway Alpha (Alpha) and Taxiway Charlie (Charlie) west of the Runway is also planned within the scope of this Project. The PCI study determined Alpha to have a PCI Rating of 59 and Charlie to have a PCI Rating of 64, which are both categorized as 'Fair' condition.

Medium-Intensity Taxiway Edge Light (MITL) Installation

This will consist of installing new Medium-Intensity Taxiway Edge Lights (MITL's) on portions of Taxiways Alpha, Delta and Golf on the west side of the Airport. The areas included in the project scope do not currently have any taxiway edge lighting, and the installation of these MITL's will provide safer conditions for airport users in poor visibility and nighttime conditions.

While IIJA funding is anticipated to require a 95/5 cost-share, the FAA retains discretion to award eligible projects under alternate Airport Improvement Program (AIP) funding categories, which may require a 90/10 cost-share. To ensure timely acceptance of the grant award and avoid project delays, approval of City participation of up to a 10% local match is requested, should the FAA determine a higher match is required at the time of award.

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	\$675,000.00	\$675,000.00
Municipal Airport Capital Proj Fund (City Match-Transfer In)	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00
Project Total	\$750,000.00	\$750,000.00

Funding is budgeted in the Capital Intrafund Transfer Out account in the Municipal Airport Capital Project Fund for the Aviation Department.

The grant application repository number is GRNT-APPL-0000000178.

ADVISORY BOARD APPROVAL - On January 29, 2026, 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 capital budget, as appropriated, in the Muni Airport Grants Federal Fund for the Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Fiscal Year 2026 Airport Infrastructure Grant Project. 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.

Submitted for City Manager's Office by: Valerie Washington 6199

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