

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 01/14/25

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 25-0049

LOG NAME: 55AFW FY25 BIL AIRPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBJECT

(CD 10) Authorize Application for and Acceptance of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Fiscal Year 2025 Airport Infrastructure Grant, if Awarded, from the Federal Aviation Administration in an Amount Up to \$1,668,578.00 for an Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Vehicle, Airport Joint Reseal and Pavement Improvements, and the Extension of Taxiway Papa at Perot Field Fort Worth Alliance Airport, Authorize the Use of Land Credits for the City's Match in an Amount Up to \$87,820.00, for a Total Amount Up to \$1,756,398.00 and Adopt Appropriation Ordinance

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 2025 Airport Infrastructure Grant, if awarded, from the Federal Aviation Administration in an amount up to \$1,668,578.00 for an Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting vehicle, airport joint reseal and pavement improvements, and the extension of Taxiway Papa at Perot Field Fort Worth Alliance Airport;
2. Authorize the use of land credits in an amount up to \$87,820.00 for the City's in-kind local match of the project costs;
3. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Muni Airport Grants Federal Fund, in an amount up to \$1,756,398.00, subject to the receipt of the grant, for the purpose of funding an Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting vehicle, airport joint reseal and pavement improvements and the extension of Taxiway Papa at Perot Field Fort Worth Alliance Airport; and
4. Amend the Fiscal Years 2025-2029 Capital Improvement Program.

DISCUSSION:

On November 15, 2021, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 (IIJA) 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:

- 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), Perot Field Fort Worth Alliance Airport (Airport) is eligible to receive up to \$1,668,578.00 under the program for this Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25). 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." Last year, the Airport was allocated \$1,855,407.00 in funding, with additional funding expected next year, 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.

The federal share for previous IIJA grants was 90 percent, with the local match being 10 percent, however based on a change included in the FAA reauthorization law, the federal share for FY25 IIJA grants increased from 90 to 95 percent for nonhub and nonprimary airports. Conversely, the local match decreased from 10 to 5 percent for these airports. This same federal share increase will apply for next year's IIJA grant, if received.

Funding from this FY25 IIJA grant will be used for, but not limited to, the following projects:

- Purchase of a new Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF) vehicle
- Joint resealing and pavement improvements on various areas of the Airport
- Extension of Taxiway Papa

Fort Worth Fire Department Station 35 (FWFD Station 35) at the Airport currently maintains three ARFF vehicles to satisfy FAA emergency response requirements. According to the FAA, the average service life of ARFF vehicles are ten to twelve years, and the FAA has multiple factors to consider if an ARFF vehicle is in need of replacement. The oldest ARFF vehicle at the Airport was manufactured in 2003. Not only is it twenty-two years old and has significantly exceeded the FAA's recommended average service life, but almost all FAA criteria has been met to justify its replacement. By replacing this ARFF vehicle, the Airport will be better equipped to satisfy FAA requirements with reliable equipment that is not outdated or obsolete, as well as ensure requirements are still met if any other ARFF vehicles need to be placed out of service for maintenance.

The Joint Reseal and Pavement Repair project (Joint and Pavement Project) will consist of resealing concrete pavement joints and miscellaneous pavement repairs on various parts of the Airport (see attached map), and will be broken into multiple phases dependent on funding. Phase I of the

Joint and Pavement Project is 95% designed, with construction planned to begin in 2025.

The Taxiway Papa Extension project (Taxiway Papa Project) is located on the west side of the Airport (see attached map), and will provide greater ease of access to tenants on the west side of the Airport and allow for better, overall operational efficiency. It also provides additional public protection along the west perimeter of the Airport by providing a larger protection zone that will enhance the margin of safety on airport property in accordance with FAA Advisory Circulars. Phases I, II and III of the Taxiway Papa Project are complete.

In previous phases of the Taxiway Papa Project, the perimeter fence and road (Fence and Road) have been relocated during the construction of the taxiway, however, to prioritize safety, shifting the Fence and Road out of the Runway Safety Area (RSA) is the next critical step. The Fence and Road relocation will be designed with Phases IV and V of the Taxiway Papa Project, and then advertised for construction as the base bid. Construction of Phases IV and V of the Taxiway Papa Project will be completed as funding is received.

If Congress appropriates money under the IIJA next year, the City would be able to apply in future years for prior year allocations in addition to the then current years allocated funds under the IIJA to carry out larger projects.

Existing land credits remaining from land donations at the Airport will be used for the City's in-kind match of \$87,820.00.

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	\$1,668,578.00	\$1,668,578.00
Muni Airport Grants Federal Fund (Land Credits for City Match)	\$87,820.00	\$87,820.00
Muni Airport Grants Federal Fund (Total)	\$1,756,398.00	\$1,756,398.00

Since no City salaries will be charged, indirect cost recovery does not apply. The grant application repository number is GRNT-APPL-0000000097.

ADVISORY BOARD APPROVAL - On October 17, 2024, the Aviation Advisory Board voted to recommend that the City Council approve the application for and acceptance of this grant.

Perot Field Fort Worth Alliance Airport is located in COUNCIL DISTRICT 10.

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

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. 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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