

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 09/14/21

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 21-0642

LOG NAME: 55FTW 2021 ARPA GRANT

SUBJECT

(CD 2) Authorize Application for and Acceptance of the Airport Rescue Grant, as Part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, if Awarded, from the Federal Aviation Administration Passed Through the Texas Department of Transportation in an Amount Up to \$148,000.00 at Fort Worth Meacham International Airport and Adopt Attached Appropriation Ordinance

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize the application for and acceptance of the Airport Rescue Grant, as part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, if awarded, from the Federal Aviation Administration passed through the Texas Department of Transportation in an amount up to \$148,000.00 at Fort Worth Meacham International Airport; and
 2. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Municipal Airport Grants Federal Fund in an amount up to \$148,000.00, subject to the receipt of the grant, for the purpose of funding prevention and response to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic at Fort Worth Meacham International Airport.
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DISCUSSION:

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) was signed into law, allocating nearly \$8,000,000,000.00 in funds to be awarded as economic relief to eligible United States (U.S.) airports to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) must obligate ARPA funding by September 30, 2024. Airport Rescue Grant Allocations were announced on June 22, 2021. Based on the classification provided by the FAA for ARPA funds offered to each airport, Fort Worth Meacham International Airport (Airport) is eligible to receive up to \$148,000.00 under the program.

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has requested funding on behalf of the Airport, and will provide specific forms to the Airport to request ARPA funds and reimbursements through TxDOT's E-Grants Website, once TxDOT has received its ARPA Block Grant Funding from the FAA. The Airport will have four years from the award date of the ARPA Grant to submit eligible expenses for reimbursement.

Funding for the ARPA will be paid at 100% of the federal share; therefore, no City match is required. This grant will incur no reimbursable indirect costs.

Per the FAA, qualifying ARPA expenses are those directly related and are necessary to operate, maintain and manage the Airport. Qualifying expenses include but are not limited to Airport costs related to operations, personnel, cleaning, sanitization, janitorial and other items that generally have a limited useful life when combating the spread of pathogens. In addition, qualifying expenses include debt service payments directly related to the Airport due on or after March 11, 2021, which is the date of enactment of ARPA.

Fort Worth Meacham International Airport is located in COUNCIL DISTRICT 2.

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

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.

Submitted for City Manager's Office by: Fernando Costa 6122

Originating Business Unit Head: Roger Venables 6334

Additional Information Contact: Ricardo Barcelo 5403
Christy Medina 5432

