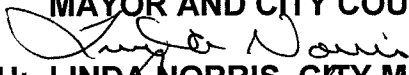



FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF: November 29, 2010
AGENDA ITEM NO: _____ 4 (c)

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
THROUGH:  LINDA NORRIS, CITY MANAGER
FROM:  RICK L. SCOTT, DIRECTOR
URBAN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT: FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA) AIRPORT
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (AIP) PRIMARY ENTITLEMENT GRANT

ISSUE:

Shall the City Council authorize the City Manager to apply for and accept a Federal Aviation Administration Airport Improvement Program Primary Entitlement Grant of up to \$150,000 to fund an environmental assessment?

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Council authorize the City Manager to apply for and accept a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Airport Improvement Program (AIP) Primary Entitlement Grant of up to \$150,000 to fund an environmental assessment for a runway/safety area extension at McNary Field.

BACKGROUND:

As part of the Connect Oregon II Transportation Program, Salem was awarded a \$2,600,000 grant to extend the primary runway /safety area. This grant is being matched with FAA Primary Entitlement Funds. Council voted to accept the Connect Oregon II I Runway/Safety Area Grant in 2008. Phase one, the documentation of need and justification, has been completed and approved by the FAA. The next step is the Environmental Assessment for the Runway/Safety Area Project.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

During the November 15, 2010, Council Work Session, Council members and the public were presented with a work scope and project timeline for the update of the Airport Master Plan and the Environmental Assessment process for the Runway/Safety Area Extension. While contracts and funding are in place for the Master Plan work, additional funding is necessary for the Environmental Assessment. While an exact cost of the environmental work cannot be determined until the FAA approves the final work scope, the project manager estimate is \$300,000. Half of the cost will be covered by Connect Oregon II, with the remainder provided by the FAA.

Staff is requesting City Council authorize the City Manager to submit and accept a FAA grant of up to \$150,000 for the Environment Assessment Project. FAA funds would be though the AIP Primary Entitlement Program as part of the \$1,000,000 previously allocated to the Salem.

The FAA is currently operating on a series of Congressional resolutions for spending authority, and their grant windows have short timelines. Approval to submit and accept the grant now will allow the City to be more responsive to the FAA grant process timeline.

CONCLUSION

This project will provide additional runway/safety capability for Salem's existing corporate aircraft users as well as better position the airport to recruit commercial air service. The Environment Assessment is a critical component of the project and is supported by the Connect Oregon II Program and the FAA.

Report Prepared by: Alan Alexander, Airport Administrator
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