



City of Arts & Innovation

Transportation Committee

TO: TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS **DATE: JULY 21, 2016**
FROM: GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT **WARD: 3**
SUBJECT: RIVERSIDE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT UPDATE

ISSUE:

To receive a biannual report on Riverside Municipal Airport operations and activity.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Transportation Committee receive this biannual report on Riverside Municipal Airport operations and activity.

BACKGROUND:

The Riverside Municipal Airport (Airport) is a transportation and economic development asset serving general and corporate aviation in the Southern California Inland Region. The Airport is built with complete landing and navigation systems for all-weather conditions, provides full conference facilities, and full service pilot and aircraft services.

The following is the General Services Department biannual Airport update to the Transportation Committee.

Statistics

Aircraft Operations (takeoffs and landings)			
Year to Date	Jan – May 2015	Jan – May 2016	Variance
	47,106	43,346	(8%)
Monthly	May 2015	May 2016	
	10,520	9,381	(11%)

In May of 2015 aircraft operations were higher than normal due to a one-time increase in law enforcement students participating in advanced helicopter flight training. Additionally, in May of 2016, the Airport experienced greater than normal occurrences of Santa Ana wind conditions that reduced operations.

Financials			
	Projected July 2015 – May 2016	Actual July 2015 - May 2016	Variance
Expenditures	\$1,072,092	\$992,000	(7%)
Revenue	\$1,094,591	\$1,390,445	27%

Events and Public Education

- **2016 Airshow:** On April 2, 2016, the Airport hosted the 24th Annual Airshow. An airshow committee (Committee), organized to coordinate the annual air show, is operating under a Memorandum of Understanding dated March 2000. The Committee estimated approximately 80,000 attendees at this year's airshow. Two articles appeared in the Press Enterprise.
 - Saturday, April 1, 2017 has been set for the 25th Annual Airshow and Open House. Planning is already underway to schedule performers and invitations are being extended to the military for static display aircraft.
- On May 2, 3, and 4, 2016, the Airport hosted four WWII classic aircraft owned by the Collings Foundation. This event drew several hundred visitors that toured the aircraft and had an opportunity to take rides. Media coverage included a segment by KTLA Channel 5 featuring Riverside Airport with a WWII veteran that had flown one of the aircraft.
- In April, Caltrans, Department of Aeronautics conducted its annual inspection and found the airport to be in compliance with State regulations.

Marketing

Staff continues to work with the City's Economic Development and Marketing offices in formulating and refining the Airport's marketing plan. The campaign ties into the City's Economic Development marketing efforts to attract businesses and quality jobs. Key messages for the campaign will include the Airport's strategic location to major markets, no landing fees, and its congestion-free environment. The campaign will feature award winning City amenities and programs that support Riverside's quality of life and Business First philosophies.

The following summarizes key marketing efforts for the past six months and provides a look ahead for the next six months.

January - June 2016

- Print advertisements in the "*This is Riverside*" magazine and a state wide publication for the Civil Air Patrol.
- Staff coordinated a five day, 25 spot advertisement on local AM radio (KCAA, 1050 AM) during the week of the Memorial Day holiday.
- March 30, 2016 and April 2, 2016 articles about the Riverside Airshow.
- Two online Press Enterprise articles featuring the Airport runway beacon replacement dated June 6 and 7, 2016.

Six Month Look Ahead

- Local radio ads to promote the Airport during the Veteran's Day holiday in November

- Monthly contest for Airport photography submissions to be displayed in terminal building and at 2017 Airshow.
- Additional strategies are being developed working with Economic Development and City Marketing staff.

Development

On April 9, 2015, staff issued a competitive Request for Proposals for the development of land on the west side of the Airport. Staff entered into negotiations with the successful proposer in June of 2015. The developer has since been in negotiations with prospective tenants to build out approximately 18 acres of land. The developer anticipates upwards of a \$35 million investment in the Airport for this project.

Airport Investment

Staff recognizes the critical need to preserve the Airport as an asset with infrastructure improvements, maintenance and reinvestment. The following summarizes investment activity.

January – June 2016

- Upgraded the Airport parking light lighting to low-energy, LED lighting.
- Worked with Riverside Public Utilities to update the Airport's fire hydrant system including adding and relocating hydrants, and upgrading water lines to current standards. This project was funded by Riverside Public Utilities.
- Installed a new tenant sign at the intersection of Airport Drive and Gemende.
- Replaced the stairway to the terminal building patio deck and installed two new benches.
- Replaced the 50 year old Airport beacon.
- Received City Council approval for design work associated with the routine repair of approximately 600,000 square feet of aircraft apron, and minor repair work on the Airport's primary east/west runway. Construction for this project is planned for the summer of 2017.

Six Month Look Ahead

- Paint six hangar rows consisting of 33 individual tenant aircraft hangars. The estimated cost is \$100,000 which is included in the Airport budget. This project is scheduled to be completed this summer.
- Upgrade the heliport located on the roof of City Hall. This upgrade will include new lighting and markings to meet current FAA standards and is planned for this summer. The estimated cost of this project is \$40,000 and is included in the Airport budget.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with receiving this report.

Prepared by:	Kim Ellis, Airport Manager
Certified as to	
Availability of funds:	Scott G. Miller, Interim Finance Director/Treasurer
Approved by:	Marianna Marysheva-Martinez, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form:	Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney
Attachment:	Presentation