



City of Arts & Innovation

Transportation Committee

TO: TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS DATE: FEBRUARY 8, 2018
FROM: GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WARD: 3
SUBJECT: RIVERSIDE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT UPDATE

ISSUE:

Receive a semi-annual report on the Riverside Municipal Airport's operations and activities for the period of July to December 2017.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Transportation Committee receive this semi-annual report on the Riverside Municipal Airport operations and activities.

BACKGROUND:

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

DISCUSSION:

This report includes information about Operations, Financials, Activities / Events, and Investment in Airport Infrastructure.

Tenant Communications

The Airport strives to provide exceptional customer service to its tenants. Ongoing communication is an important part of the customer service strategy. Airport staff continues to provide information to tenants through various means, including monthly News Bulletins, email blasts, direct mailings, and Airport tours. The most recent customer survey shows 93% of respondents were satisfied to extremely satisfied with the Airport's operation and management.

Key Operational and Financial Statistics

Operations:

Aircraft Operations (takeoffs and landings)			
Year over Year	Jan – Dec 2016	Jan – Dec 2017	Variance
	105,304	102,492	(3%)
Monthly	Dec 2016	Dec 2017	
	7,949	6,776	(15%)

Financials:

REPORTING PERIOD: JULY 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2017				
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE (ACTUAL TO BUDGET)	PERCENT
Expenditures	\$639,435	\$591,516	\$(47,919)	(7.5%)
Revenue	\$754,172	\$778,033	\$23,861	3%

Events and Public Education

The activities below occurred from July through December 2017.

- **Runway and Apron Construction:** Construction for rehabilitation of the aircraft apron and runway commenced October 9, 2017 and was completed October 23, 2017, ahead of schedule and within budget at \$922,528. The City received Federal and State grants in the amounts of \$830,622 and \$41,533, respectively; with the balance of \$50,333 paid from the Airport Revenue Fund.
- **Airport Strategy:** Staff shall issue a Request for Proposals in the second quarter of 2018 in search of a proposer to prepare medium and long term Airport strategies for identification of core capabilities and opportunities to maximize the Airport's Regional competitive position.
- **Charter Helicopter Service:** Although not part of the reporting period, it is important to note Staff is preparing a Request for Expressions of Interest for aircraft operators to provide charter helicopter service at the Airport. This document should be issued the first quarter of 2018. The intent is to have helicopter operators provide charter transportation services to other Southern California destinations, including commercial service airports.

- **Building Lease:** Staff is negotiating with a prospective tenant to occupy the former Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) building and associated aircraft parking area of the Airport. The facility is currently leased by Riverside Public Utilities and used for storage.
- **Hangar Painting Project:** Bid 7432, valued at \$77,500, closed on September 15, 2017. The project includes painting six (6) aircraft hangar structures and is approximately seventy-five percent (75%) complete. This project was funded with Airport revenues.
- **Drone Use Guidelines:** In collaboration with the University of California, Riverside, California Baptist University, Riverside Fire Department and Riverside Police Department, the Airport has submitted an application to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for assistance in developing federal rules and regulations for the use of unmanned aerial systems or “drones”. Initially, the FAA will select up to five (5) groups to participate in the FAA program. This is a three (3) year program and additional groups could be added later.
- **Events:** Staff continues to engage airport tenants, the pilot community, local residents and businesses.
 - The Riverside Mini-Makers Faire was held September 23, 2017 in the Airport terminal and welcomed approximately 350 participants who interacted with partnering agency displays. In addition to robots, flight schools and motorized legos, the event featured a popular STEM lab run by the Girl Scouts of San Geronio.
 - The Airport was the host site for a free Experimental Aircraft Association ground school course and discovery flight. Approximately 15 pilots donated their time and aircraft to introduce the general public to aviation and flight.
 - The 3rd Annual Trunk or Treat was held on Friday, October 27, 2017 in the Airport parking lot. This event is coordinated by the Riverside Police Assistance League with assistance from Airport staff.
 - The 2017 Fly-In Pancake Breakfast was held on Saturday, November 4, 2017 and offered pilots an opportunity to participate in a Spot Landing Competition. Pilots could also earn a free pancake breakfast hosted by the Commemorative Air Force by completing three touch-and-go's.

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.

- Staff will submit a Federal Grant application for the reconstruction design of a taxiway that provides access to the Airport's north/south runway. Construction will take place in Fall 2019.
- A Request for Proposals was published for development of Airport land on the west side. This project will develop up to 18 acres of airport land. Development will include aviation use in accordance with FAA regulations. A pre-proposal meeting was held on January 3,

2018. Six companies attended and toured the development site. Proposals are due February 15, 2018.

- Staff will issue a Bid to paint an additional four (4) hangar rows in Spring 2018. This project will complete the hangar painting project.
- A Bid for the rehabilitation of aircraft apron parking at the east end of the airport is under development.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with receiving this semi-annual activity report.

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Approved by:	Marianna Marysheva, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form:	Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachment: Presentation