

Date:

September 19, 2024

To:

Mark Dunning, City Manager

Through: Michael Park, Director of Public Works

From:

Joel Arrington, Airport Manager

RE:

Lee's Summit Municipal Airport Staff Report September 2024

## **Air Traffic Control Tower**

On August 8, the Airport received notification from the FAA that it had met the required benefit/cost ratio, successfully securing its acceptance as a candidate for the FAA Contract Tower Program. This candidate status is a crucial step forward, enabling the Airport to proceed with the planning and development necessary to construct an air traffic control tower. The next phase in this process involves tower siting, which includes safety evaluations, environmental studies, and FAA reviews, all aimed at identifying the optimal location for the tower. This phase is estimated to take approximately 270 days to complete.

### **East Side Infrastructure and Hangar 2**

Construction of the east side infrastructure and Hangar 2 are progressing. On September 18, cement stabilization started on the hangar pad and roadways. Grading in the detention basin is ongoing and has been delayed due to encountering rock. Estimated completion date is summer 2025.

# **Airport and Fixed-Based Operator Re-Branding**

To align with the 2020 Business Plan and facilitate the transition to Hangar 2, the Airport has been engaging with internal and external stakeholders regarding a new name for the Airport and FBO Services. Staff will present the survey results and make a name recommendation for the Council to discuss at the City Council meeting on Sept. 24.

#### **World Cup Preparation**

In preparation for the World Cup in 2026, Airport staff is working with the USDA and US Customs and Border Protection to establish Lee's Summit Airport as a port of entry for the United States. This will enable visitors flying into the World Cup from other countries to try to use our airport as a point of arrival and departure.

Additionally, we are beginning to source additional equipment to rent during the event, develop an aircraft parking plan, and update the fee schedule to cover extra costs.

Joel Arrington, Airport Manager, will be attending a MARC Aviation Advisory Committee meeting on September 26, along with other local airports, to discuss World Cup preparation topics.

# **Airport Incidents & Noise Complaints**

The Airport received noise complaints from a resident in the Lakewood area. Airport staff met with the resident in August and discussed the Airport's operation, traffic patterns, and FAA Rules and regulations, as well as established FAA operating procedures.

The Airport Manager has continued communicating noise concerns to local flight schools, including those located at nearby airports that use our Airport. On September 17, Joel Arrington and Thad Dearman met with Summit Flight Academy, Univ. of Central Missouri, ATP, and ATD flight schools. They discussed ways to reduce the noise impact on local residents near the Airport.

On September 15, a twin-engine aircraft had a flat tire on the runway, which required the runway to be closed for approximately 45 minutes so that staff could remove it.

## **East Side Terminal**

The design of the Airport Terminal (funded by an FAA Grant) is on track to be completed later this year. In July 2024, the airport applied for a construction grant through the Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Legislation/Airport Terminal Program. This grant would fund eligible portions of the buildings, which, at the current estimate, consist of 67% of the building. The Terminal 65% design images are shown below.



**Terminal from the Ramp Side** 



**Interior Lobby** 



Interior Lobby facing the parking lot and café area



