

LEE'S SUMMIT

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Date:

July 29, 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 July 2024

Airport Master Plan Update.

On Nov. 3, the Airport submitted a supplement to our Federal Contract Tower (FCT) application for review and determination to establish LXT's eligibility in the FCT Program. On December 21, the Airport received a letter from the FAA stating that the Benefit/Cost Analysis was completed and the final B/C ratio was 0.99. The minimum requirement is 1.0 to be accepted into the Federal Contract Tower Program. Our consultant reviewed the findings and found some errors that could increase the benefit cost ratio to a 1.0. An official appeal of the benefit cost determination was submitted to the FAA on March 25, 2024. Based on our recent conversation, we expect a final determination to be received in August or September 2024.

East Side Infrastructure and Hangar 2 Design Updates

The construction project for the East Side Infrastructure and Hangar 2 projects was awarded by the City Council on March 19, 2024. The total cost for the projects is \$16,833,559.53. This cost includes portions of the LSR7 Summit Tech Academy Aviation Program subject to funding by LSR7. A groundbreaking ceremony was held on April 18. The construction project began on April 22, 2024, and is progressing. The expected completion date for Hangar 2 is currently Summer 2025.

Staff has been working with an individual interested in developing a hangar and constructing public infrastructure on the east side of the airport. Staff and the other party have been negotiating the terms of the land and development an agreement. Both agreements are currently being reviewed by our Law department.

Airport and Fixed-Based Operator Re-Branding

To align with the 2020 Business Plan, prepare for the 2026 World Cup, and facilitate the transition to Hangar 2, the Airport engaged in discussions with the Public Works Committee regarding the need to rebrand the Airport and its associated services. Based on the valuable feedback received, Airport staff will continue collaborating with stakeholders, including local pilots, the Board of Aeronautic Commissioners (BOAC), and other regional aviation departments, to develop a new Airport name that more accurately reflects the area we serve and the services we provide. The Public Works Committee has recommended that once potential names have been identified, a presentation be made to the City Council for consideration and adoption, ideally in time to be implemented before the World Cup. It is important to note that implementing a new Airport name can potentially take years, and is contingent upon the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) workload.

East Side Terminal

The design of the Airport Terminal (funded by an FAA Grant) is on track to be completed later this year. The Airport will apply for a construction grant in July 2024. This grant would fund eligible portions of the buildings, which, at the current estimate, consist of 66% of the building.

Airport Incidents & Noise Complaints

The Airport received a noise complaint from a resident in the Lakewood area. Airport staff have initiated contact with the resident and scheduled a meeting for late August or early September, accommodating the resident's preferred timeframe. The meeting will focus on providing comprehensive information about Airport operations, traffic patterns, and flight school activities.

Proactively, the Airport Manager has communicated with local flight schools to reinforce adherence to the Fly Friendly Program guidelines, emphasizing the importance of minimizing noise impacts on the surrounding community.

Community Outreach:

The Airport Manager gave a presentation to the Lee's Summit Workforce Alliance on July 11, 2024.