



CITY OF CONCORD

REPORT TO MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Martha Drukker, Associate Engineer

DATE: January 19, 2016

SUBJECT Airport Drainage Outfall Reconstruction Project

Recommendation

Authorize the City Manager to enter into an Agreement to transfer federal entitlement funds in the amount of \$178,500 from the Town of Haverhill, NH to the City of Concord for the purposes of the Concord Municipal Airport's outfall reconstruction project and to pay the Town an amount not to exceed \$9,425 for this transfer; and

Appropriate \$27,675 as a transfer to the Airport Capital Fund from FY2015 Airport Fund Balance; and

Appropriate \$374,425 (\$328,500 Federal share, \$18,250 State share and \$27,675 City share) in funds for the purpose of reconstructing a portion of the storm drain outfall to Runway 17/35

Background

This fall it was brought to the City's attention that the storm drain outfall for the southern portion of main runway 17/35 had failed. The southern half of the runway drains into a 36-inch diameter concrete pipe that heads cross country where it outlets into a steep ravine. The ravine has eroded to the point that 100 feet of the outlet pipe has washed into the ravine. The system was installed in the early 1970's.

Staff has met with representatives of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT), Bureau of Aeronautics to review options for reconstructing the outfall as quickly as possible. The estimated cost for the design and reconstruction is \$365,000. The option of applying for funds through the typical federal grant program was dismissed given the fact that—based on the grant cycle—the City would not be able to begin

construction until fall of 2017. Leaving the outfall in its current condition until 2017 could significantly undermine the main runway.

City staff, along with its airport consultant, examined other possible alternatives for more expedient funding. The most promising was to solicit the transfer of existing federal funds from another NH airport. The FAA allows airports to request transfers of their entitlement funds to another airport subject to conditions set forth by and agreed to by both parties involved (sending and receiving airports).

Annually, the FAA distributes \$150,000 to each public use airport in the state. These funds must be used on capital improvements at the airport in accordance with the Federal Airport Improvement Program and can accumulate to an amount not to exceed \$600,000. Some of the smaller airports in the state fail to use their entitlement due to a number of different reasons. City staff contacted several communities and the Town of Haverhill, NH indicated they would be willing to discuss assisting the city.

Discussion

The Town of Haverhill has not historically used its federal entitlement monies because it typically cannot raise the matching funds required by the federal grant program. There are several improvements needed at Dean Memorial Airport and the town would like funds in place when the opportunity arises to move forward on a project. The Town has tentatively agreed to transfer to the City of Concord the amount needed in exchange for the City providing the Town with 5% of the transferred amount and up to \$500 for legal expenses.

The outfall reconstruction project is estimated to cost \$365,000 and the City and State would have to match their 5% (\$18,250 each) and the remaining 90% federal funds would include the \$150,000 entitlement funds the City annually receives and the remaining balance of \$178,500 would be transferred from Haverhill's entitlement to Concord.

Concord would need to pay Haverhill 5% of the transferred entitlement or \$8,925 and the legal expense incurred to review the interlocal agreement. Haverhill would have to confirm that the 5% funds were spent on capital improvements at the airport. Once an agreement for transfer of funds is executed by both parties, it must be submitted to the NHDOT Bureau of Aeronautics for final approval.

With this agreement, Staff anticipates construction would start in the 2016 construction season.

