



City of Santa Barbara
Airport Department

DATE: December 17, 2014
TO: Airport Commission
FROM: Hazel Johns, Airport Director 
SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2015 Airport Improvement Grant Application

RECOMMENDATION:

That Airport Commission receive a presentation on the Fiscal Year 2015 Airport Improvement Grant Application.

DISCUSSION:

Each year the Airport Department submits an Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grant application to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to fund the cost of developing capital projects that enhance safety, capacity, security, or environmental concerns. The AIP grant is for 90.66% of the total cost of the project. This year the Airport is applying to fund the Airfield Lighting and Safety Project. This project is comprised of three major components: airfield marking, airfield lighting, and security fence improvements. The total project is estimated to cost approximately \$3 million.

Airfield Lighting

The Santa Barbara Airport Lighting Control System consists of lights, signs, cable, isolation transformers, constant current regulators, lighting control computers and monitors, touch screens, and computer laptops. The system has had various components replaced over time with routine maintenance. However, persistent low voltage to ground resistance readings on airfield lighting circuits and a recent failure of a lighting control panel in the main runway circuit. A review of this circuit demonstrated a large need for rehabilitation of the lighting and wiring of the entire airfield.

The majority of the airfield lighting system had primary cables replaced in 1998, while the regulators, lighting control system, and isolation transformers were replaced in 2004. Underground portions of the electrical system are submerged in groundwater in the winter months, causing power losses and damaging equipment. New conduit will be installed in some areas to minimize exposure to water.

Airfield Safety

This portion of the project includes implementation of airfield marking, lighting, and signage changes recommended by SBA's Runway Safety Action Team; and Airport Certification/Safety

Inspectors, as well as marking lighting and signage changes required to bring airport into compliance with current advisor circular standards on airport marking lighting and signage.

Security Fence Improvements

This would replace non-standard security fencing with eight-foot black vinyl chain-link fencing with double-leaning barbed wire to provide uniform protection to the Airport Operations Area (AOA). Sections of fencing on the eastern boundary of the AOA are only six feet tall and one section is made of wood. The wooden section between the safety area for Runway 7-25 and San Pedro Creek is also being exposed to creek erosion, undercutting the bottom of the fence. This section would be relocated westward along the Airport service road to provide a buffer between the fence and the creek. A total of approximately 2,000 feet of new fencing would replace existing AOA fencing.

Next Steps

The Airport will submit this application this week. Solicitation for construction contracts will occur in spring 2015. The selected contractor(s) and the final bid price will be submitted to FAA in May 2015, to facilitate final award and construction beginning in July 2015. The entire project will take approximately 3 months to complete and may include night work.