



REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NO.	
COUNCIL MEETING	1/9/07
<i>APPROVED BY</i>	
<i>DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR</i>	
<i>CITY MANAGER</i>	

January 9, 2007

FROM: RUSSELL C. WIDMAR, AAE
Director of Aviation

SUBJECT: AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING SERVICES WITH COFFMAN ASSOCIATES, INC., FOR THE PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR NORTH SIDE DEVELOPMENT AT FRESNO CHANDLER EXECUTIVE AIRPORT.

KEY RESULT AREA

One Fresno

RECOMMENDATION

That the City Council authorize the Director of Aviation to execute an agreement between the City and Coffman Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$211,150 to provide professional consulting services for the preparation of an Environmental Assessment related to development projects on the north side of Fresno Chandler Executive Airport (FCH).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The undeveloped north side is the last remaining available area for aviation related development at FCH. In October 2005 the Airports Department completed a focused Master Plan update for north side development at FCH and subsequently obtained Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) approval on an updated Airport Layout Plan (ALP), which is the basis for FAA funding eligibility. The next step is to perform a National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) study, which is required prior to the FAA releasing any funding for eligible project development. Proposed projects for the north side include a full service Fixed Base Operator (FBO), flight school, corporate hangars, private T-hangars, a taxiway, taxilanes, and related infrastructure.

The Airports Department has received FAA Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grant funding for the preparation of a NEPA environmental assessment (EA) for the projects proposed on the north side of FCH. Following FAA authorization, a request for qualifications (RFQ) was advertised on July 26, 2006. Four consulting firms from across the country responded. Coffman Associates, which has substantial environmental assessment experience for airports similar to FCH, was selected as the most qualified professional consultant.

There is no impact to the City's General Fund from this action. Funding for this project is from FAA AIP Grant 3-06-0088-12 and airport revenue, which is included in Airports FY07 Budget.

KEY OBJECTIVE BALANCE

North side development at FCH provides a balanced approach to our three key objectives of customer service, employee satisfaction, and financial management. Customer service will be enhanced by providing additional services to the aviation industry. As development replaces vacant land the on-going maintenance of the north side will continue to reduce resulting in improved employee satisfaction. Financial management will be realized because new development generates additional revenue for FCH, which helps move the airport closer to the goal of becoming financially self-sufficient.

BACKGROUND

The Department of Airports completed an FAA funded Focused Master Plan Update for North Side Development at FCH in October 2005. The purpose of this Focused Master Plan Update was to provide specific guidance (in accordance and consistent with the 1999 Master Plan) on the appropriate use and development of the airport's north side building area. The completed focused Master Plan enabled the FAA to approve a new ALP, which identifies all potential projects at FCH, allows for FAA funding of required environmental work, and eventual funding for FAA eligible projects.

Since initiating the focused Master Planning effort, one developer (Bordeaux Partners) has committed to developing a substantial portion of the north side, as outlined in the July 26, 2005 Council item. Additionally, the Airports Department is proposing to self develop hangars, associated taxilanes and supporting infrastructure on another parcel.

The FAA reviewed and authorized the RFQ process, including evaluation and selection criteria. A request for qualifications (RFQ) was advertised on July 26, 2006. Four consulting firms from across the country responded. Coffman Associates, which has substantial environmental assessment experience for airports similar to FCH, was selected as the most qualified professional consultant for the project. The FAA has reviewed and approved the scope of work and fee schedule.

The Airports Department requests the City Council authorize the Director of Aviation to execute an agreement with Coffman Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$211,150.

FISCAL IMPACT

The FAA is funding 95% of the project cost through an AIP grant. Of the remaining 5%, 2.5% will be funded by CalTrans Aviation with a California Aid to Airports (CAAP) grant and 2.5% will be funded with Airport revenues. The project is included in the City's FY2007 Adopted budget. There is no impact to the City's General Fund from this action.

Attachment:

FCH Site Map

