

Facilities and Infrastructure Committee
Special Meeting
June 17, 2008
Scott Heyman Conference Room

Approved July 17, 2008

Present: L. McBean-Clairborne, Chair; K. Luz Herrera (arrived 4:55 p.m.), Vice Chair, D. Kiefer, C. Chock
Excused: D. Randall
Staff: R. Nicholas, Airport; E. Marx, Commissioner of Planning and Public Works; K. Fuller, Deputy Clerk of the
Legislature
Guest:

Call to Order

Mrs. McBean-Clairborne, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.

**RESOLUTION NO. - AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A FEDERAL AVIATION
ADMINISTRATION (FAA) GRANT TO CONSTRUCT RUNWAY
SAFETY AREA IMPROVEMENTS AND OBSTRUCTION
CLEARANCE AND TO CONSTRUCT THE PARALLEL TAXIWAY
RELOCATION (PHASE III) - ITHACA TOMPKINS REGIONAL
AIRPORT**

It was MOVED by Ms. Herrera, seconded by Ms. Chock, to recommend adoption of the following resolution to the full Legislature.

Mr. Nicholas explained that the grant did not come in for the full amount requested, therefore requiring the original resolution to be amended by removing the demolition of the old hangar. At this time, it was decided to utilize \$430,000 remaining from a previous grant, combined with the \$7621,250 to complete the runway safety area improvements and the parallel taxiway relocation. He reported that the FAA does not release the funds until the congressional delegation receives the recognition for the funding, which is being undertaken by Senator Schumer's office. The Senator's office is aware and prepared to answer any questions related to the issue and it is expected the funds would be released shortly.

Ms. Chock inquired what the differences were from the previous resolutions. Mr. Nicholas said \$3,518,118.88 covers the construction, design, and inspection for the runway safety improvements and obstruction clearance; the balance of \$4,844,925.30 is for the parallel taxiway relocation and removal of the stub taxiway alternate bid. Bids have been awarded for these projects. The only contract left is the inspection contracts that will come forward at the next Facilities and Infrastructure Committee meeting.

Ms. Chock inquired if more information was available with respect to the possible installation of obstruction lights, noting a constituent expressed a concern they may disrupt wildlife. Mr. Nicholas indicated that at this time the plan is to possibly install two to three lights on poles to indicate obstructions rather than removing the trees. Ms. Kiefer indicated that the Laboratory of Ornithology was in agreement with the placement of lights.

Ms. Herrera inquired what the possible Phase 4 would entail; Mr. Nicholas said it would be budgeting the \$250,000 needed for the hangar demolition. He explained the grant did not come in high enough to cover that portion of the projects this year and therefore the project would be done in 2009. Mr. Nicholas said there is

a possibility that Congress could release the additional twenty-five percent grant funds during this budget year and if so, the project would move ahead.

Ms. Kiefer noted that a C&S Engineer had indicated the obstruction lights might not be necessary and asked if any further information was available. Mr. Nicholas has not received any update regarding the possibility.

A voice vote on the motion resulted as follows: Ayes – 4; Noes – 0; Excused – 1 (Legislator Randall).
RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

WHEREAS, our congressional delegation is working with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in Washington to secure Airport Improvement Program (AIP) funding to construct the above mentioned projects, and

WHEREAS, the County is expecting to receive said funding from the Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) in the amount of \$7,621,250, and

WHEREAS, the County has an additional amount of \$430,000 from a previous grant that has been designated by the FAA as part of the required funding, and

WHEREAS, the budget for these two projects is as follows:

| | | | |
|--------------|---------|---------------------------|----------------|
| FAA Share | (95.0%) | Account No. HT 5601.44592 | \$8,051,250.00 |
| NYSDOT Share | (2.5%) | Account No. HT 5601.43592 | \$ 211,875.00 |
| Local Share | (2.5%) | Account No. HT 5601.45031 | \$ 211,875.00 |
| Total | | | \$8,475,000.00 |

, and

WHEREAS, the projects for Construction of the Runway Safety Area Improvements and Obstruction Clearance, and Construction of the Parallel Taxiway Relocation (Phase III), have already been approved by the County Legislature subject to Federal and State funding being received, and

WHEREAS, the Construction Inspection and Contract Administration agreements for these projects will be brought before the County Legislature for approval before the projects are allowed to go forward, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Facilities and Infrastructure Committee, That when the grant offer from the FAA of \$7,621,250 is received, it be accepted and the County Administrator be authorized to execute the required documents,

RESOLVED, further, That the local share of \$211,875.00 has already been factored into the airport's 2008 operational budget.

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20

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Adjournment

On motion the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.