



Watsonville
CALIFORNIA

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, July 8, 2025

TO: CITY COUNCIL

RECOMMENDED BY: AIRPORT DIRECTOR WILLIAMS

APPROVED BY: TAMARA VIDES, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION, ACCEPT AND EXECUTE A FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA) AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT STATE MATCHING GRANT FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, DIVISION OF AERONAUTICS F

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends City Council authorize the City Manager to submit an application for the State Matching grant for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Airport Improvement Program (AIP) for the engineering design of the Reconstruct Permanent Tiedown Apron (Area 7) Project at Watsonville Municipal Airport in the amount of \$8,123; and if awarded, accept and execute a standard grant agreement and any amendments thereto as necessary; and appropriate the funds to the Airport Enterprise Grant Fund.

BACKGROUND:

In April 2025 the Municipal Airport submitted an Airport Improvement Program (AIP) application for the engineering design of the Reconstruct Permanent Tiedown Apron (Area 7). The FAA process requires a competitive bid process prior to awarding grants. Once the winning bid is selected the FAA issues the grant.

The total cost of the project is \$171,000.

DISCUSSION:

The permanent tie-down apron (21,300 sq. yd.) at the Watsonville Municipal Airport is showing significant cracking including block cracking and some alligator cracking with an uneven surface. The

2022 PMMP (Pavement Maintenance Management Plan) indicates that this pavement is predicted to have a structural failure in 2029 with the forecast traffic, thus reconstruction is necessary by 2027 to prevent this pavement section failure.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) DETERMINATION:

The engineering design of the reconstruction of the permanent tiedown apron (Area 7) does not meet CEQA's definition of a "project," pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(5) and 15061(b)(3) because the action does not have the potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.

The reconstruction of the pavement would be categorically exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15301 (existing facilities).

STRATEGIC PLAN:

City Council approval to accept this State Matching Grant is consistent with the Airport's strategic plan and meets the goals and objectives outlined in the Airport Master Plan.

Infrastructure & Environment

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

\$427 of total project will be paid by the Airport Enterprise Fund.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION:

The City Council may choose not to accept the AIP State Matching Grant.

ATTACHMENTS AND/OR REFERENCES (IF ANY):

None.