



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: ACCEPTANCE AND EXECUTION OF AN FAA AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM GRANT FOR THE ENGINEERING DESIGN FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF PERMANENT TIE-DOWN APRON (AREA 7)

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends City Council accept the Federal Aviation Administration's Grant Offer for the engineering design for the reconstruction of permanent tie-down apron (Area 7) Airport Infrastructure Program (AIP) Project at Watsonville Municipal Airport, in the amount of \$162,450; and authorizing and directing City Manager to execute the grant agreement for the project and all necessary documents; and appropriating the \$162,450 to the Airport Enterprise Fund.

BACKGROUND:

In April 2025 the Municipal Airport submitted an Airport Infrastructure Program (AIP) application for the Design for the Reconstruction of Permanent Tie-down 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 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 because the action is administrative in nature and 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 permanent tiedown apron (Area 7) would be exempt from review pursuant to CEQA section 15301 (existing facilities).

STRATEGIC PLAN:

City Council approval to accept this Airport Improvement Project 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 Grant.

ATTACHMENTS AND/OR REFERENCES (IF ANY):

None.