

Tri-County Airport Improvement Project



Presentation to: The Richland County Board – 20 Apr 2021

What is the project and what service does it support?

The project includes raising the runway, raising the taxiway, improvements to lighting, improvements to airport drainage, improvements to drainage ditch to Bear Creek, and moving existing irrigation equipment to improve the drainage ditch. This project supports airport operations by reducing closures due to reoccurring flooding, and this project is seen as an economic development/sustainment by the Richland County, Commission members.



Why is it needed, and when does it need to be in place?



These projects will raise the surfaces and increase drainage to help reduce flooding at the airport. There is grant funding availability from the Federal Aviation Administration in 2022. Grant funding from Wisconsin in 2023-2024 is currently designated to Mitchell and Dane County. The next opportunity may not come again until 2025. The airport continually experiences hanger flooding, a closed runway, and increased waterfowl activity resulting from inadequate drainage.

What are the risks and consequence of going without, deferring until a later year, or reducing?

Going without the project will likely lead to prolonged periods of airport flooding, flooding of leased hangers, reduced access for local pilots and area businesses, and impacts on rented restaurant. Deferring to later years would either suspend the project to 2025 or later, or put additional expenses on our partner, Sauk County. Reducing the project would impact current efforts of joining all the improvements under one grant project, which increases likelihood of being awarded.



Additional comments // previous history or action on this project?

This is a 9.5-million-dollar project in which the FAA would cover 90%, Wi DOT would cover 5% and we are left with a 5% local share with Sauk Co, and possible local area partner support. Discussions and negotiations with Sauk County on operation and capital appropriations are underway.



Projected / Estimated Expenses:



<u>Improvements: 2022</u>	Total Estimates:	Local Share %	Local Share \$	Sauk at 75%	Richland at 25%
Runway Rehabilitation	\$ 3,400,000.00	0.05	\$ 170,000.00	\$ 127,500.00	\$ 42,500.00
Airfield Lighting	\$ 450,000.00	0.05	\$ 22,500.00	\$ 16,875.00	\$ 5,625.00
Taxiway Reconstruction	\$ 400,000.00	0.05	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Airport drainage / ditching	\$ 2,750,000.00	0.05	\$ 137,500.00	\$ 103,125.00	\$ 34,375.00
Road drainage / ditching to Bear Creek	\$ 2,250,000.00	0.05	\$ 112,500.00	\$ 84,375.00	\$ 28,125.00
Moving irrigation equipment / "Project Obstruction"	\$ 300,000.00	0.05	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 11,250.00	\$ 3,750.00
Totals for 2022:	\$ 9,550,000.00	0.05	\$ 477,500.00	\$ 358,125.00	\$ 119,375.00
Additional Expenses: 2021					
Land Appraisal	\$ 2,000.00	100%	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 500.00
Land Acquisition (@\$5000/acre)	\$ 100,000.00	100%	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Totals for 2021:				\$ 76,500.00	\$ 25,500.00
			Projects	\$ 434,625.00	\$ 144,875.00

Opportunity:

- Opportunity: There is a local area partner that is willing to make a substantial contribution to the project. Some of these donated funds would be able to be used on 2021 expenses thereby negating the need for budget adjustments. However, it would be appropriate to have commitment by both counties for 2022 expenses to ensure our partner that their money will be utilized towards a completed project.



Tasks and Timeline:

- Timeline: Sauk and Richland adopt a owner agreement/ordinance – May 2021
- Commitment to 2022 expenditures: Sauk and Richland commit to 2021 expenditures - May 2021
- Land acquisition/lease is completed - Summer of 2021
- Necessary land reports are complete and grant application is submitted by September 2021

