



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**

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**Agenda Item Number:** 31

**Agenda Date:** October 31, 2024

**In Control:** City Council A Session

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**DEPARTMENT:** Aviation Department

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Jesus H. Saenz Jr.

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:**

San Antonio International Airport Grant Awards

**SUMMARY:**

This ordinance accepts and appropriates grant funds from the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Airport Improvements Program (AIP) in an amount up to \$7,489,455. The City's grant match is \$2,496,486, for a total grant amount of \$9,985,941. Projects submitted as part of the AIP grant application included:

- a) Airfield Safety Enhancement and Improvements Program (ASEIP): Programmatic Environmental Assessment Phase II;
- b) ASEIP: Preliminary Engineering Report (PER); and
- c) Design-Build of the South Remain Overnight (RON) aircraft parking positions for the Terminal A Ground Load Facility

This action also grants the Director authority to accept up to an additional 25% of the AIP amount requested for the South RON project.

This action also accepts and appropriates grant funds from the Department of Transportation (DOT) and FAA's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Airport Terminal Program (ATP) for Terminal Development Program (TDP) Phase 2: Environmental Review and Partial Design of the

New Terminal and associated enabling projects in an amount up to \$18,000,000. The City’s grant match is \$4,500,000, for a total grant amount of \$22,500,000. This action also grants the Director authority to accept up to an additional 20% of the ATP amount requested.

Funding for the City’s share is available from Interim Airport Financing and included in the FY 2025 – 2030 Capital Improvement Program.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The City regularly partners with the FAA for continued AIP grant funding for eligible projects at the Airport. AIP funding is based on the Airport’s preliminary submittal of its annual Airport Capital Improvement Plan (ACIP) to the FAA. Through the ACIP, the Airport identifies priority projects to be funded. With this grant program, the Airport System can share costs with the FAA on large and critical airfield projects at the San Antonio International Airport. Projects can receive grant funding of up to 75% of eligible project costs with the City providing the remaining matching share.

Under the AIP grant, primary airports may receive passenger and cargo entitlement funds for the calendar year. Passenger boarding and all-cargo data is collected for a full calendar year and is used in calculating airport categories and entitlements for the next full fiscal year.

On November 15, 2021, the President signed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, commonly referred to as the BIL. Projects can receive grant funding of up to 80% of eligible project costs with the City providing the remaining matching share.

**ISSUE:**

The ordinance authorizes the City to accept and appropriate grant offers related to the FAA AIP program for the following projects to support the runway, taxiway and other improvements at the San Antonio International Airport:

AIP	ASEIP: Programmatic Environmental Assessment	\$970,275.00
AIP	ASEIP: Preliminary Engineering Report	\$1,519,180.00
AIP	South RON Parking Relocation	\$5,000,000.00
AIP	TDP Phase 1: Environmental Review & Partial Design of New Terminal and Associated Enabling Projects	\$18,000,000.00

ASEIP Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA)

The Programmatic EA will expand the original environmental assessment for the ASEIP. During the initial efforts of the EA that evaluated the alternatives that include the implementation of a

parallel taxiway for the use as an alternate landing surface and after progressive engagements with the key stakeholders of Joint Base San Antonio and FAA environmental protection specialist, it was determined that additional alternatives should be considered. The objective of this Programmatic Environmental Assessment will be to expand the alternatives to include the elements of the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) and the FAA-approved Airport Layout Plan (ALP). The Programmatic EA will document and disclose per the requirements according to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The FAA announced the award of \$970,275 on August 9, 2024.

*ASEIP: Preliminary Engineering Report (PER)*

The PER for the ASEIP, will objectively advance the development of the program with Data Collection, Schematic Design, and Program Definition documentation, and formulary cost. SAT's primary runway, Runway 13R-31L, exhibits pavement condition ratings in the 'Poor' & 'Very Poor' ranges based on Pavement Condition Index (PCI) evaluations performed in 2022 as per FAA. Also, a structural evaluation of the pavement sections identified the pavement had a structural remaining life of 2-5 years. The reconstruction of the primary runway, Runway 13R-31L, must be performed in a manner that does not shift air operations to the crosswind runway, Runway 4-22, for a significant duration that impacts non-military and military aircraft operations. The FAA announced the award of \$1,519,180 on September 6, 2024.

*South Remain Overnight (RON)*

The South RON supports the TDP and improves aircraft parking. This project will replace existing RON apron positions impacted by the construction of the Terminal A Ground Load Facility, a critical enabling project of the TDP. The FAA announced the award of \$5,000,000 on September 6, 2024.

*TDP Phase 2: Environmental Review and Partial Design of the New Terminal and Associated Enabling Projects*

This project will fund a portion of the 30-60% Design and Pre-Construction Services for the TDP to construct a modern terminal designed to reduce environmental impact; provide universal, inclusive design for passenger needs; support ongoing passenger growth through resilient and sustainable infrastructure; and offer equity in transportation access. Project elements include a new terminal; fuel storage/hydrant system; Central Receiving/Distribution Center; apron parking reconfiguration; public safety building; badging office relocation; Central Utility Plant upgrades; and roadway improvements. The FAA announced the award of \$18,000,000 on February 15, 2024.

This action is consistent with the City Council's policy of improving facilities, improving land uses, and enhancing safety at the San Antonio International Airport and maximizing utilization of federal funds. Since 2020, the Aviation Department has been awarded \$138.7 million from the FAA to support infrastructure needs.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

City Council could choose to not approve this item. However, this action would result in the City funding up to \$25,489,455 of eligible project costs that the FAA has identified it would fund, allowing the Airport to use the funding for other projects or priorities. Additionally, the failure to

accept could potentially affect the City's ability to receive future FAA grant funding for additional safety, terminal development, and expansion projects.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This ordinance accepts and appropriates grant funds in an amount up to \$7,489,455 for existing ASEIP and Terminal A Ground Load Facility projects, as part of the AIP program; and \$18,000,000 for existing Terminal Development Program projects, as part of the ATP Program. Funding for the City's share of \$6,996,486 is available from Interim Airport Financing. This action will appropriate funds and amend the FY2025-FY2030 Capital Improvement Program.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval.