



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Item Number: {{item.number}}

Agenda Date: February 20, 2024

In Control: Airport Advisory Commission Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Aviation Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Jesus H. Saenz Jr.

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Runway Incursion Prevention through Situational Awareness Program

SUMMARY:

Ben Marple from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) will brief the Airport Advisory Commission on the Runway Incursion Prevention through Situational Awareness (RIPSA) Program at the San Antonio International Airport. This is a new program sponsored by the FAA and aimed at reinforcing protection of the Runway Safety Area at airports.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The FAA introduced the Runway Incursion Reduction Program (RIRP) to reduce the risk to people and property caused by collisions in the runway environment in 2000-2001. In 2017, a new initiative was introduced to this program – the Runway Incursion Prevention through Situational Awareness (RIPSA) system – a technology-based solution aimed at reinforcing protection of the Runway Safety Area. The Runway Safety Area is defined as the area within the 250 feet of each

side of a runway center line. The RIPSAs system utilizes a "Right-Site-Right-Size" approach to address specific runway incursion causal factors identified at candidate airports. It is primarily intended to mitigate pilot deviations and vehicle/pedestrian deviations, which result in approximately 80% of all runway incursions reported to the FAA.

The San Antonio International Airport was identified to participate in the RIPSAs system based on factors such as the presence of a diverse operational mix, an expressed desire to partner as a technology testbed and runway incursions that require additional mitigations to supplement planned construction, signage upgrades, training, and outreach efforts. On June 15, 2023, City Council approved a Memorandum of Understanding between the FAA and City to allow San Antonio International Airport to serve as the first airport to participate in the RIPSAs system.

ISSUE:

During this presentation, the Airport Advisory Commission will receive an overview of the RIPSAs program and its implementation at the San Antonio International Airport. Members of the commission will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback to the FAA and the City.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This presentation is for informational purposes only.

ALTERNATIVES:

This presentation is for informational purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

This presentation is for informational purposes only.