

ITEM # 13
DATE: 10-14-08

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: MATCHING FUNDS TO REHABILITATE AIRPORT RUNWAY 13/31

BACKGROUND:

The Airport Master Plan for the Ames Municipal Airport examines all the needs of the airport and recommends improvements to keep the infrastructure in safe condition. Each year the City submits a copy of the identified improvements requesting Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) funding to the Iowa Department of Transportation. These requests are then forwarded to the FAA for consideration.

The 2008/2009 Capital Improvements Plan includes a project for the Rehabilitation of Runway 13/31. Runway 13/31 was initially built in 1953, and the last major reconstruction occurred in 1977. Although the City has continued to perform preventative maintenance throughout the years, the runway has deteriorated to the point that full reconstruction is required. On October 3, 2008, the City was notified that FAA Grant funding for this project is pending. The official and public notification that the FAA has allocated funds for this project will be by congressional release. A grant offer will not be issued until bids for the project are received in April 2009.

The total estimated cost for the project is \$2,120,000. The FAA portion of this project is \$2,014,000 (95%) and the City's share is \$106,000 (5%). The airport construction fund balance at the beginning of this project is estimated at \$149,881.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Proceed with the project by approving matching funds for the rehabilitation of Runway 13/31 and authorizing the consultant selection process to begin.
2. Reject the approval of the project.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

One of the primary goals of the Ames Municipal Airport is the safety of its users. By authorizing this project, the Ames City Council will ensure the continued high safety standard currently seen at our airport facility.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council direct staff to proceed with the project by approving matching funds for the rehabilitation of Runway 13/31 and authorizing the consultant selection process to begin.