

ITEM #:	20
DATE:	04-08-25
DEPT:	PW

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: AIRPORT AIRSIDE IMPROVEMENTS
(RUNWAY 01-19 RECONSTRUCTION)

BACKGROUND:

The primary runway at the Ames Municipal Airport, Runway 01/19, is in deteriorated condition. **The surface consists of hot-mix asphalt over portland cement concrete and has a current Pavement Condition Index (PCI) of 45—well below the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) threshold of 55 for reconstruction eligibility.** Additionally, underlying structural issues such as joint blowups present a safety concern for aircraft operations.

The project involves full reconstruction of Runway 01/19 and portions of associated taxiways, including A1–A4, parts of Crosswind Runway 13/31, and Parallel Taxiway B within the Runway Safety Area.

Design efforts under this agreement will address all elements necessary for FAA approval and grant eligibility, including topographic and geotechnical investigations, aircraft fleet mix analyses, and full construction plan development. The project will be designed to FAA standards for Aircraft Approach Category C and Airport Design Group II.

Design work is scheduled to begin in FY 2024/25, with construction anticipated to start in Spring 2026 (pending grant funding). The overall design will include phasing and construction planning intended to minimize the duration of any full airport closures required during the reconstruction work.

Funding is programmed in the Capital Improvements Plan in FY 2025/26 and in FY 2026/27 based on guidance from the FAA staff overseeing the grant application process. The design phase was previously programmed in FY 2024/25, with funding from an anticipated FAA grant and the Airport Improvements Fund.

Bolton & Menk, Inc., has been selected to complete the design work through a task order under their existing master agreement. The proposed fee of **\$1,196,600** was reviewed through an **Independent Fee Evaluation (IFE)** performed by Foth Engineering. That evaluation confirmed the proposed fee to be fair and reasonable in accordance with FAA guidelines.

FUNDING SUMMARY:

Revenue Source	FY 2024/25	FY 2025/26	FY 2026/27	Total
Federal Funds	\$735,000	\$10,103,250	\$14,307,000	\$25,145,250
G.O. Bond Funds	—	\$531,750	\$753,000	\$1,284,750
Airport Improvement Funds	\$130,000	—	—	\$130,000

Revenue Source	FY 2024/25	FY 2025/26	FY 2026/27	Total
Total Revenues	\$865,000	\$10,635,000	\$15,060,000	\$26,560,000

Expense Category	FY 2024/25	FY 2025/26	FY 2026/27	Total
Design	\$865,000	\$331,000	—	\$1,196,000
Construction***	—	—	\$24,079,250	\$24,079,250
Inspection/Admin***	—	—	\$1,284,750	\$1,284,750
Total Expenses	\$865,000	\$331,000	\$25,364,000	\$26,560,000

*** Estimated funds available for construction and inspection services. These numbers are based on preliminary engineering and are expected to be updated upon receipt of bids.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. a. Approve a professional service agreement with Bolton & Menk, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$1,196,600, contingent on FAA grant funding.
b. Approve the grant application for Federal Funds with the FAA.
2. Do not approve a professional services agreement with Bolton and Menk and thereby not proceed with this airport improvement project at this time.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The reconstruction of Runway 01/19 is a critical airside improvement to ensure long-term safety and operational reliability at the Ames Municipal Airport. Proceeding with the design phase now ensures the City remains eligible for FAA funding and can position the project for construction in FY 2026/27. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative 1, as shown above.

ATTACHMENT(S):

[Ames-Runway 1-19 Design PSA](#)
[IFE Consultant Fees Comparison](#)
[FAA Grant Application](#)