

ITEM #: 20
DATE: 05-13-25
DEPT: PW

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: **IOWA DOT AIRPORT STATE GRANT APPLICATION FOR 2025/26
AIRPORT FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS (JET FUEL FARM)**

BACKGROUND:

The James Herman Banning Ames Municipal Airport currently utilizes a 10,000-gallon underground storage tank for Jet A fuel. The existing tank and associated fuel dispensers have exceeded their useful life and present an increased risk of leakage. Additionally, the current storage volume is insufficient to meet the demands of growing airside traffic, particularly large charter services that require substantial amounts of fuel for long-distance flights. In some cases, a single charter flight can deplete a significant portion of the existing capacity. Increasing storage capacity will allow the airport to better support charter needs while aligning with the delivery capabilities of its fuel supplier.

This project proposes the installation of a modern, 14,000-gallon above-ground Jet A fuel tank to enhance safety, environmental compliance, and infrastructure resilience. The increased capacity will reduce the frequency of fuel deliveries and improve operational efficiency. Above-ground installation also provides greater flexibility to relocate the fueling system as needed to align with operational requirements and the airport's long-term master plan. The project also includes associated improvements such as a new concrete tank pad, fueling system components, bollards, lighting, and electrical work.

The project cost is estimated at \$725,000. A grant application has been prepared in coordination with the City's consultant, Bolton & Menk, Inc., and submitted to the Iowa Department of Transportation's State Aviation Program. If selected, the grant would provide 57% of the total cost, or \$412,500, while the remaining 43%, or \$312,500, would be funded locally. A copy of the [Iowa DOT Grant Application](#) is attached.

This project is shown in the FY 2025/26 [Capital Improvements Plan \(CIP\)](#) and allocates \$312,500 in General Obligation Bonds as the City's matching funds for the proposed improvements.

The Iowa DOT grant application requires a resolution from the City Council certifying support for the project and the availability of matching funds.

Funding Source	Amount	Percent
Iowa DOT Grant	\$412,500	57%
City (G.O. Bonds)	\$312,500	43%
Total Project Cost	\$725,000	100%

A [Project Location Map](#) is attached for reference.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the grant application to the Iowa DOT for Airport State Funds and certify that the City has programmed the required matching funds.
2. Do not approve the application, thereby forfeiting potential state funding and directing staff to identify alternative funding sources.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approving this grant application supports the City's long-term investment in safe and efficient airport operations and contributes to the economic stability and growth of the Airport by maintaining critical infrastructure that serves both local and regional aviation needs. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council approve Alternative 1, as shown above.

ATTACHMENT(S):

[AMW_IowaDOT Grant Application 2025-04-29.pdf](#)

[2025_26_Airport_Facility_Improvements__Jet_Fuel_Farm_Map.pdf](#)

[Airport Facility Improvements CIP.pdf](#)