



City Council Report

Date: July 8, 2019
To: City Council
Through: Natalie N. Lewis, Deputy City Manager
From: Corinne Nystrom, Airport Director
Subject: Falcon Field Airport – Airport Master Plan
City of Mesa Project No. CP0256
City Council District No. 5

Purpose and Recommendation

The purpose of this report is to recommend that the City Council adopt the attached Resolution, which approves the Falcon Field Airport – Airport Master Plan and authorizes the City Manager, or his designated representative, to execute documents that are part of the Master Plan.

Background

The purpose of an Airport Master Plan is to provide the community, public officials, and City staff with proper guidance for future development that will satisfy aviation demands, while also being compatible with the surrounding environment. The current Falcon Field Airport Master Plan was approved by the City Council in 2009.

Discussion

Since the 2009 Master Plan was completed, the general aviation industry has experienced many changes, and many of the Airport's capital improvement projects listed have been completed. The new Master Plan, prepared by Coffman Associates, takes into account the general aviation industry changes and includes an updated list of proposed capital improvement projects for the next 15-20 years based upon current aviation forecasts and current and anticipated future airport needs. It also includes an Economic Benefit Analysis of the airport that was completed by Arizona State University.

The Master Plan is considered to be the primary planning tool that the City, the Federal Aviation Administration, and the Arizona Department of Transportation use to determine which airport capital improvement projects should be considered for funding. The Plan does not commit any of these agencies to fund the projects listed, as future development will be demand-based.

Community Impact

The scope of work for the Master Plan included involvement and participation from the general public throughout the process. The recommendations included in the Master Plan may potentially impact residents and businesses in the vicinity of the Airport, as well as Airport tenants and users.

Alternatives

The first alternative is to continue to utilize the 2009 Master Plan. However, this Plan is outdated, and many of the capital improvement projects listed in it have already been completed. The second, and recommended alternative, is to approve the new Master Plan for use as the City's primary planning tool for future airport capital improvement projects.

Fiscal Impact

Since the Master Plan is a planning tool and does not commit the City to fund any of the capital improvement projects identified, there is no fiscal impact if the City Council approves the Plan.

Coordinated With

The City Engineering Department and Office of Economic Development were members of the Planning Advisory Committee and support the approval of the Master Plan.