



City Council Work Session

Monday, October 17, 2016, 6:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, 317 S. Washington

Mayor Shelley Hansel

Council Member Kip Etter

Council Member Bill Butts

Council Member Kelly Hawley

Council Member Jim Valentine

Council Member Jan Korte

Council Member Vince Wetta

Agenda Items

- ❖ Pledge of Allegiance
- ❖ Airport FAA Project
- ❖ Westborough Roads
- ❖ Raw Water- KDHE Consent Order

Miscellaneous

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Richard Carlson, Interim Secretary
Merrill E. Atwater, Director

Sam Brownback, Governor

October 11, 2016

Patrick Hamlin
Wellington Municipal Airport
317 S. Washington
Wellington, KS 67152

RE: KDOT participation with FAA AIP project funding

Dear Mr. Hamlin:

I am pleased to announce that the Secretary of Transportation has agreed to provide FY 2017 funding to partner with Wellington in sharing the local matching share of the recently announced FAA Airport Improvement Program (AIP), **Runway Extension and Drainage** project.

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) through its Kansas Airport Improvement Program (KAIP), will partner with the City of Wellington on a 50% / 50% matching share basis for up to **5%** of the total anticipated project amount of \$2,816,600. The KDOT participation will be up to a maximum of **\$140,650**. This amount is eligible for construction costs and construction engineering. The City of Wellington in conjunction with the FAA AIP grant is responsible for all additional construction costs, preliminary engineering and other associated costs.

Please note this matching partnership on an FAA AIP project is an exception to the KAIPs standard operating procedures for project funding.

You will receive additional information from the Division of Aviation regarding the details of your agreement in the near future.

Congratulations!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Merrill E. Atwater".

Merrill E. Atwater
Director

Wellington City Council Members,

The Kansas Department of Transportation conducted an economic impact study of the Wellington Airport and discovered that the airport and the aviation related businesses generated \$30.3 million in payroll with 747 employees and a total economic impact of \$157.9 million.

While a good portion of this impact is related to the Triumph Group, GKN, Curtis Wright company. The airport supports a variety of other aviation businesses and has the potential to be the economic engine for Wellington. Small business like Air Plains and Horton's boast a national clientele. More than \$4.7 million was attributed to small airport businesses in this study.

Users of the airport generate a quarter of a million dollars in fuel sales alone. The airport's reputation for low fuel prices and the availability of transportation into town makes Wellington an ideal stop for transcontinental travelers. Visitors at the Wellington airport are estimated to spend \$85 per day per visitor at non-airport business.

The expansion of the airport will allow additional aircraft to utilize the airport. During the summer, a variety of factors require a longer runway for many normal users of the airport. The extension of the runway to 5,200' provides a margin of safety allowing 85% of business aircraft to utilize the airport year round. A 5,000' runway is also a threshold length that insurance companies require to base particular aircraft. This extension could allow public private investment in critical infrastructure, like hangars.

The expansion of the runway and the addition of sanitary sewer permit the airport to grow. Additional aviation and non-aviation business can be promoted in this area. Training and technology programs, similar to the National Center for Aviation Training, could be explored to support existing businesses and promote business growth.

The proposed airport project includes the correction of drainage and other issues that will improve the airport environment. The elimination of the sanitary ponds on the west side of the airport will reduce a safety hazard for our airport users.

The total price tag of the airport improvements is \$2.8 million. While the initial cost may seem high, this program is funded at 90% by the FAA. The FAA funds used for this program come from aviation fuel taxes. The Federal government will fund \$2.52 million of the improvement. The State of Kansas also expressed interest in participating in this improvement. The total cost to Wellington may be as less than the annual amount that the city is currently realizing in fuel sales.

Ordinarily, construction projects result in an economic multiplier of approximately 1.5. While this multiplier affects an area larger than Wellington or Sumner County, a \$2.8 million project will move \$4.5 million through the regional economy.

Airport expansion provides economic and safety enhancements.

Sincerely
Supporters of the Wellington Airport Project

