

SMO Visioning Process

As the operating agreement between the FAA and the City of Santa Monica regarding the Santa Monica Airport approaches its expiration in 2015, the City has begun a process to determine the options available for the airport's future. The airport consists of 227 acres located at the south east corner of the City's borders. The 5000ft runway is imbedded in a residential area and the environmental and safety impacts have been a long time concern for airport neighbors. In addition to the runway itself, the airport property hosts aviation related businesses, non-aviation business, airport staff offices, aircraft tie-downs (parking spaces), aircraft hangers, restaurants, artist studios, sports playing fields, dog park , a theatre, and some SMC classrooms.

The City has engaged the services of three consultant firms to conduct an airport visioning process. The Rand Corporation will produce a study of potential development concepts and applications for the aviation and non-aviation land. HR&A will analyze the airport's economic impacts of the airport. Point C will formulate and manage an extensive community process regarding the range of possibilities for the Airport's future. This public outreach process will include all stakeholders including residents, business owners, aviation and non-aviation interests.

Phase I of the process will involve information gathering. Phase II will consist of a comprehensive public input process. After a full range of options are identified with the associated costs and benefits, the City will then undertake Phase III, a deliberative planning process for the future of the Airport.

Phase I – February to September 2011 — HR&A will prepare a study of Airport's economic impact. — RAND will prepare a report and analysis on general aviation airport best practices, potential alternative layouts, operational configurations and uses. — Point C's will identify stakeholders, formulate a public process plan that will include all the stakeholders, design presentations and formats to disseminate the information collected and produced by HR & A and RAND.

Phase II- October 2011 to January 2012 — A program of public workshops would be conducted. These meetings will be designed to include a broad range of participants. — Meetings will be scheduled throughout this period to ensure all interested members of the public would have the opportunity to participate. — Recommendations will become part of the public dialogue report.

Phase III – February to June 2012– City Council would begin the deliberative phase with presentations from RAND and HR&A on their reports and a full review and discussion of the comments and recommendations from the Phase II public input process. — City Council will consider appropriate policies and actions. Friends of Sunset Park encourages all residents to participate in the public input process so their voices are heard in determining the Santa Monica Airport's future.