NEWS

From Supervisor Gary Ovitt Fourth District, San Bernardino County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 24, 2008

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SUPERVISORS APPROVE REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR MASTER DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AT CHINO AIRPORT

The Board of Supervisors on Tuesday took a major step toward eventual improvements at Chino Airport by launching a Request For Qualifications For Master Development Services.

In October of 2007, a Chino Airport Redevelopment Task Force was created to focus efforts on the redevelopment of the Chino Airport. The Task Force consisted of key departments within the County and the Fourth Supervisorial District.

One of the work elements identified by the Task Force was the creation of a Fixed Base Operator (FBO) complex on the southwest portion of the Airport. FBO's are facilities that provide aircraft fueling, sales and maintenance related activities to the flying public. The Task Force also identified the area west of the Chino Commercial Hangars for additional aeronautical related facilities.

Supervisor Gary Ovitt commented; "The County is seeking a private/public partnership that will facilitate a more collaborative and cooperative process and ensure a more compatible and successful product that benefits the County and the surrounding community. This partnership will enhance Chino Airport and the economic benefits that it brings for the betterment of the entire area."

Ovitt went on to say; "Approval of this RFQ will allow staff to begin the process of selecting a firm that will function as the master focal point for these specific areas of the Airport, working in partnership with the County in the planning, design, construction and financing of the complex facilities for the Chino Airport."

The firms responding to the Request for Qualifications approved Tuesday will be evaluated based on their qualifications and experience in providing development services, such as planning, design, financing, construction and operation of facilities for the Chino Airport. A selection committee comprised of representatives from the County Administrative Office, Department of Airports, Purchasing Department, other County Departments and the City of Chino will evaluate responses to the RFQ. The selection committee will review and rank the received proposals in accordance with the solicitation and create a short-list of the three most qualified firms.

Once the short-list of qualified firms has been identified, the list will be brought before the Board of Supervisors for consideration. The Board will be asked to ratify the ranking of firms. The Board will also be asked to approve the Request for Proposals (RFP) for providing development services, such as planning, design, financing, construction and operation of facilities in the context of a lease of the identified portions of Chino Airport and authorize the Department of Airports to issue the RFP to the three highest rated pre-qualified master developers.

Ovitt said; "Upon completion of the RFQ selection process, staff will return to the Board with the recommended short list of firms, and following further evaluation, a negotiated contract will be presented for Board consideration and approval."

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