



RESOLUTION 2022-08

Direction for Completing a Master Plan for Middleton Municipal Airport—Morey Field

WHEREAS, in 2018 the Middleton Common Council decided to prepare an airport master plan—the first since the City's acquisition of the general aviation facility—and authorized the Wisconsin Bureau of Aeronautics (acting as the City's agent) to enter into an agreement with Mead & Hunt to undertake this work; and

WHEREAS, the scope of work approved by the City and BOA consisted of a progression of tasks designed to culminate in the preparation of an Airport Layout Plan to be submitted to the Federal Aviation Administration for review and approval; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 the Common Council established an Airport Master Plan Advisory Committee (AMPAC) consisting of members who reflected a range of perspectives about the airport to help guide the master planning process, with the understanding that the committee was advisory to the Airport Commission and Common Council; and

WHEREAS, AMPAC members and project staff met for over 34 hours, 10 of which were devoted to receiving public input and responding to questions from the public; and

WHEREAS, after reviewing the input provided by advisory committee members regarding Mead & Hunt's no-build and development alternatives pertaining to runways and hangar space, Airport Commission members in June 2021 recommended specific development alternatives to the Common Council; and

WHEREAS, during the last quarter of 2021 the City contracted with the National Research Center at Polco to undertake a professionally-conducted survey of randomly selected residents of the City and the Towns of Middleton and Springfield to ensure statistically valid results, garnering a high response rate of 33%, and Polco has subsequently released its final report on resident opinions regarding the airport master planning process; and

WHEREAS, the findings of the draft master plan chapters, the input of the advisory committee and Airport Commission, and results from the community survey are intended to help the Common Council select the preferred airport development alternatives to carry forward as Mead & Hunt completes the following final tasks in their scope of services:

- Development of a Land Use Plan that will be made part of the Airport Layout Plan (ALP).
- Preparation of Noise Contours depicting the future 10-year build-out condition of the airport and the corresponding projected level of activity.
- Development of a Financial Plan depicting future projects and their anticipated costs, funding sources, and consideration of the Airport's revenues and expenses.
- Drafting of a new Airport Layout Plan (ALP) for submittal to the FAA for review and final approval.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council hereby supports incorporating the following development alternatives into a new Airport Layout Plan so that they may become eligible for federal funding assistance:

- **East-West Runway:** Adding 200 to 440 feet of pavement to Runway 10/28 to improve the safety of current takeoffs and landings, which can be accomplished without expanding the airport footprint.
- **North-South Runway:** Developing a 3,280 ft. paved runway with an east side parallel taxiway, with the runway protection zones fully located on airport property. The City would also be amenable to the alternative of placing the parallel taxiway on the west side of the runway. This option would entail purchasing farmland at fair market value.
- **Hangar Development:** Planning for a new hangar complex on the northeast side of the airport. This option would entail purchasing farmland at fair market value.
- **Turf Runway:** Planning for turf operations either in an east-west configuration north of the solar array or parallel to a paved runway, subject to the consent of the FAA. This could entail purchasing farmland at fair market value.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Common Council concludes that these potential future projects will improve safety of aircraft operations, redirect some aircraft away from residential areas, and meet most general aviation needs of the city and nearby communities for the next 20 years without significantly changing the mix of small aircraft currently using the airport; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Common Council will hold public hearings before making a decision to proceed with any potential airport expansion project, consistent with the commitment it made in Resolution 1998-20 (“Intent for Morey Airport Property”) and reaffirmed in Resolution 2019-31 (“Airport Master Planning Process”); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Common Council recognizes that any decision to proceed with a federally- or state-funded project requires adoption of a formal petition to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for airport improvement aid along with a detailed study and environmental analysis.

This Resolution was adopted by a ____ vote of the Middleton Common Council on the ____ day of _____, 2022.

COMMON COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF MIDDLETON

Gurdip Brar, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lorie Burns, City Clerk