



## Airport Commission Agenda Report

From: Mark Scandalis, Airport Manager

Subject: Airport Physical Security Assessment

Date: October 24, 2024

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### Facts

1. The Paso Robles Airport has been owned and operated by the City of Paso Robles since 1973. Over this time the complexity of the Airport has noticeably grown.
2. In 2023 in order to assess how to best operate the Airport in accordance with industry best practices and current rules and regulations, staff completed an Airport Assessment with the help of Aviation Management Consulting Group (AMCG).
3. The AMCG report was reviewed by a subcommittee of the Airport commission, the full Airport commission, and the findings were ultimately adopted by the City Council.
4. One major of the area of focus of the Airport Assessment was to address security at the Paso Robles Airport.
5. Following adoption of the Airport Assessment by City Council, staff contracted with a nationally known security consultant, Lowery and Associates Security Consulting LLC. to perform a physical Security Assessment of the Airport.
6. Lowery and Associates spent two days surveying the Paso Robles Airport and conducted interviews with Airport staff, and stakeholders, and tenants.
7. Following the onside assessment and interviews common areas of concern included:
  - a. Uncontrolled access to the Aircraft Operating Area
  - b. Outdated or inoperable vehicle and pedestrian gates
  - c. No dedicated management and oversight of the security function at the site
  - d. No established security policies, procedures and emergency response
  - e. Lack of formal security education, awareness, and training for employees and tenants
  - f. Little to no security presence at the Airport to deter or respond to security incidents
8. In addition to the areas of concern identified in the interviews, Lowery Associates detailed 146 individual recommendations that if completed would help with the security and safe operation of the Airport.

### Options

In list form, name and provide a brief description of the primary options, including:

1. Take no action;
2. Form an Ad Hoc Committee of the Airport Commission to review the Airport Physical Security Assessment in its entirety, prioritize the recommendations of the report, and bring back recommendations to the full Airport Commission; o
3. Provide alternative direction to staff.

## **Analysis and Conclusions**

The Physical Security Assessment conducted by Lowery and Associates provides an in-depth report of the vulnerabilities and weaknesses at the Paso Robles Airport. For security reasons the full report is not being made available to the general public at this time, attached to this staff report is the executive summary of the Security Assessment for the public's review. Contained in the report are 146 individual recommendations, that if completed would help to improve security at the site and bring Paso Robles Airport up to date with current FAA guidance for General Aviation Airports. Generally, the areas of concern can be broken down into four categories:

- Uncontrolled access to the Aircraft Operating Area
- Lack of Executive Security Leadership
- Outdated Site Security Systems
- Outdated/lack of Security Policies and Procedures

Due to the amount and scope of the consultant's recommendations, prioritization is important to ensure a meaningful impact can be made towards the betterment of security at the Airport while maintaining fiscal responsibility of the Airport Enterprise Fund.

## **Fiscal Impact**

No fiscal impact at this time. Following review by the Airport Commission Subcommittee it is expected the prioritized recommendations will have costs associated and at that time cost estimates will be provided for review.

## **Recommendation**

(Option 2)

Form an Ad Hoc Committee of the Airport Commission to review the full Physical Security Assessment and prioritize the report's recommendations.

## **Attachments**

1. Airport Physical Security Assessment Executive Summary