

RESOLUTION NO. 20-02

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF SPONSORSHIP OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE OAK RIDGE GENERAL AVIATION AIRPORT TO THE CITY OF OAK RIDGE, AS THE PRIMARY SPONSORING PARTY, AND AUTHORIZING THE AIRPORT AUTHORITY'S OFFICERS TO TAKE SUCH ACTIONS AS ARE NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE TO FACILITATE SUCH TRANSFER AND THE AIRPORT AUTHORITY'S STAFF TO PROVIDE ADVISORY SERVICES TO THE CITY OF OAK RIDGE IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH TRANSFER

WHEREAS, in 2009, the Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee ("CROET") investigated the possibility of establishing a general aviation airport (the "Project") in the City of Oak Ridge, Tennessee (the "City") on sites previously operated by the United States Department of Energy; and

WHEREAS, in July 2009, CROET approached the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority ("MKAA") to assist with acquiring funding for a feasibility study with respect to the Project; and

WHEREAS, MKAA was asked to examine the feasibility of the construction of the Project, which Project is intended to be used for corporate and private aircraft and would improve general aviation access to the City; and

WHEREAS, between 2010 and 2019, MKAA completed a sequence of planning steps to evaluate the feasibility of the Project; and

WHEREAS, in March 2019, Federal Aviation Administration ("FAA") approved the proposed Airport Layout Plan for the Project in the East Tennessee Technology Park within the City; and

WHEREAS, MKAA has invested MKAA funds of approximately \$1,500,000 in direct expenditures and additional MKAA staff time with a cost of over \$500,000 in connection with the planning phase of the Project; and

WHEREAS, MKAA has successfully taken the Project to the end of the planning phase; and

WHEREAS, with the completion of the planning phase, MKAA and the City have been working together to determine the most advantageous path for the continued development and operation of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the parties determined that because the proposed airport site is within the City, the City is in the best position to direct the long-term development, ownership and operation of the Project to meet the specific needs of the Oak Ridge community; and

WHEREAS, on July 21, 2020, the City Council of the City unanimously approved a resolution that renews the City's support for the creation of a general aviation airport at the East Tennessee Technology Park and expresses the City's desire and intent to become the responsible sponsoring party for the Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority that:

1. The Board of Commissioners of MKAA (the "Board") hereby states its support for the City to become the responsible sponsoring party for all aspects of the Project, including the design, construction, ownership, and operation of the Project, as successor to MKAA.

2. In connection with the transfer of the sponsorship of the Project to the City, the Board hereby states its desire for the approximately \$3,200,000 of federal grant funds previously awarded to MKAA for the Project by the Appalachian Regional Commission and all obligations relating thereto be assigned and transferred to the City and that the Chairman and/or the President of MKAA be authorized to execute all documents deemed necessary or appropriate to effectuate such assignment and transfer.

3. In connection with the transfer of the sponsorship of the Project to the City, the Board hereby states its desire for the approximately \$19,000,000 of state grant funds that MKAA expects to receive in grants for the Project from the Tennessee Department of Transportation Aeronautics Division ("TDOT") (which consists of three separate Economic Development Fund grants) and all obligations relating thereto be assigned and transferred to the City and that the Chairman and/or the President of MKAA be authorized to execute all documents deemed necessary or appropriate to effectuate such assignment and transfer.

4. In connection with the transfer of the sponsorship of the Project to the City, the Board hereby states its desire for all rights and obligations of MKAA as a sponsor the Project for purposes of the requirements, policies and regulations of the Federal Aviation Administration (the "FAA") be assigned and transferred to the City and that the Chairman and/or the President of MKAA be authorized to execute all documents deemed necessary or appropriate to effectuate such assignment and transfer.

5. In order to assist the City with the continued undertaking of the Project, the Board authorizes MKAA staff to provide advisory services to the City, at no cost to the City, to support the transition of the Project to the City through the undertaking of the following:

a. Transfer all previously completed planning studies, associated data, and Project background information to the City;

b. Assist with the transfer of the grants, rights and obligations described above to the City with respect to the FAA, TDOT, and the Appalachian Regional Commission, and serving as a liaison between the FAA, TDOT and the Appalachian Regional Commission and the City in order to effectuate efficiently the transfers and assignments described above; and

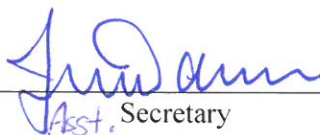
c. Provide general advisory support during this transition process to the City with respect to FAA and TDOT procedures relating to grants for airport capital improvements.

Adopted this 19th day of August, 2020.



Chairman

Attest:


Asst. Secretary