

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

882C



FROM: Economic Development Agency

SUBMITTAL DATE:
May 25, 2007

SUBJECT: Hemet-Ryan Air Attack Base Project

RECOMMENDED MOTIONS: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Conduct a public hearing, pursuant to Section 33679 of the Health and Safety Code;
2. Make the following findings in accordance with Section 33445 of the Health and Safety Code and accept the DCPA Redevelopment Capital Improvements Funds allocated by the Redevelopment Agency:
 - a. The Hemet-Ryan Air Attack Base Project will benefit the Hemet-Ryan Airport Sub-Area of the Desert Communities Redevelopment Project Area;
 - b. There are no other reasonable means of financing the project;
 - c. The project will facilitate the elimination of physical blighting conditions at the Hemet-Ryan Airport and improve essential emergency fire protection and public safety services; and
 - d. The project is consistent with the Redevelopment Implementation Plan;
3. Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for Environmental Assessment No. EDA/CEQA 2007-04, based on the findings incorporated in the Initial Study and the conclusion that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment;

(RECOMMENDED MOTIONS continued on page 2)

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Deanna Lorson
Deanna Lorson, Managing Director for Robin Zimpfer
Assistant County Executive Officer/EDA

FINANCIAL DATA	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$ 2,500,000	In Current Year Budget:	Yes
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$ 0	Budget Adjustment:	No
	Annual Net County Cost:	\$ 0	For Fiscal Year:	06/07

COMPANION ITEM ON BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA: Yes

SOURCE OF FUNDS: DCPA Redevelopment Capital Improvement Funds	Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE
BY: *Jennifer L. Sargent*
County Executive Office Signature Jennifer L. Sargent

Policy
 Policy
 Consent
 Consent

Dept' Recomm.:
Per Exec. Ofc.:

Prev. Agn. Ref.: N/A District: 3rd Agenda Number:

**ATTACHMENTS FILED
WITH THE CLERK OF THE BOARD**

9.5

COUNTY COUNSEL

MAY 25 2007
Michelle Clark
Assistant County Executive Officer

Environmental Conference

RECOMMENDED MOTIONS (continued):

4. Approve the Hemet-Ryan Air Attack Base Project; and
5. Approve the Agreement for Airport Planning Consulting Services between the Economic Development Agency and Mead & Hunt, Inc. for Hemet-Ryan Airport Environmental Impact Report and Master Plan Update, not to exceed \$417,551.

BACKGROUND:

History. The County has contracted with the California Department of Forestry (CDF) for fire services in Riverside County since 1921 with Hemet-Ryan Airport serving as an aerial firefighting/attack base since 1967. The Hemet-Ryan Air Attack Base is one of the most active aerial firefighting bases in the Country with four permanently based fixed-wing aircraft and a CDF helicopter, providing initial air attack services for over 830,000 acres in Riverside and neighboring counties. The Hemet-Ryan Airport has accommodated numerous firefighting aircraft operations during large fire incidents, establishing itself as one of the State of California's and the Nation's most active Air Attack Bases.

Project. In 2006, the County of Riverside Economic Development Agency entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with CDF to cooperate and coordinate in the development of the new Air Attack Base at Hemet-Ryan Airport. The Redevelopment Agency for the County of Riverside has completed the preliminary design/budget package, which is required for State funding. The total project budget is estimated at \$25,000,000 with the State's contribution of \$22,500,000 and the county's contribution \$2,500,000. It is proposed to use redevelopment funds for the county's portion which will be used for architectural design, engineering, environmental studies, airport master plan update, inspection and construction costs. The county will bid the project on behalf of the State and jointly manage the construction of the project until completion.

Project Description. The project will include a 5,842 square foot 22-bed standard barracks building, 4,812 square foot 3-bay vehicle storage and shop building, 4,646 square foot two-story operations building (containing pilot facilities, administration and dispatch center), a 15,300 square foot 2-bay S2T open shade canopy, and an 8,211 square foot helicopter/OV-10 closed hangar. Additional site and facility improvements include new public and secured staff parking areas, six retardant loading pits to accommodate joint-use interagency aircraft, equipment, tanks, pumps and piping used for the mixing and delivery of fire retardant. New taxi lanes from loading pits will require culvert bridge crossings over the existing canal to the main taxiway. The permanent project site totals approximately 12-acres. The approximately four-acre temporary site is located directly east of the permanent site and will include the use of three modular structures totaling 4,000 square foot with the necessary fire retardant mixing and pumping station.

Findings. The environmental review for the construction of the proposed project has been completed. Based on the Initial Study findings with mitigation, there will be no significant impact on the environment. Attached is a Summary Report, which is available to the public, detailing the estimated costs and facts supporting the redevelopment purposes of the project.

Section §33445 of the Health and Safety Code provides that a redevelopment agency may, with the consent of the legislative body, pay all or part of the cost of the construction of any building, facility, structure or other improvement which is publicly owned if the above recommended findings are made by the legislative body. Therefore, Agency staff recommends that the Board of Supervisors approve the project, conduct a public hearing, adopt the mitigated negative declaration, approve the consulting services contract with Mead and Hunt, Inc. and make the recommended findings for the Hemet-Ryan Air Attack Base project.

There is a companion item on the Board of Director's Agenda.