

**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
LEXINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
MARCH 20, 2007**

Lexington County Council held a Special Strategic Visioning Session on Tuesday, March 20, 2007 at the LPA Group Incorporated office located at 700 Huger Street in Columbia, South Carolina, beginning at 4:30 p.m. The purpose of the session was to review the five-year Capital Improvement Plan with the LPA Group and receive feedback from Council of their vision for the Lexington County Airport at Pelion

Members attending: James E. Kinard, Jr. George H. Smokey Davis
 Johnny W. Jeffcoat William B. Banning, Sr.
 M. Todd Cullum

Not present: William C. Billy Derrick Debra B. Summers
 Bobby C. Keisler John W. Carrigg, Jr.

Also attending: Katherine Hubbard, County Administrator; Larry Porth, Finance Director/Deputy County Administrator; John Fechtel, Director of Public Works/Deputy County Administrator; Diana Burnett, Clerk to Council; Charlie Compton, Director of Planning & GIS; Ronald Scott, Director of Community Development; Jim Starling, Engineer Associate II, Public Works; Chuck Whipple, Senior Project Manager, Economic Development; Keith Kirchner, Assistant Sheriff; Ken Holt, Corporate Executive Administrator, LPA Group; Andy Busbee, Aviation Designer, LPA Group; Gary Lott, Electrical Designer, LPA Group; Mark Simmons, Executive Vice President, Central SC Alliance; and Clif LeBlanc, the State Newspaper.

Strategic Visioning Session - Prior to beginning of the session, Ken Holt, Corporate Executive Administrator and Andy Busbee, Aviation Designer with the LPA Group, gave a tour of their facility.

Mr. Holt and Mr. Busbee gave a power point presentation that provided general information of South Carolina's total annual economic benefits from aviation, the Airport Improvement Program grant process, and the County's current 5-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

Mr. Busbee said the FAA requires an Airport Layout Plan (ALP) for all airport sponsors. The ALP is a document to decide what the airport might look like in 20 years. The process consists of evaluating the existing facilities, aircraft traffic, and types of aircraft. The forecast determines what the facility requirements would be for FAA.

Currently, existing runway #1735 is 4,335 feet long and 60 feet wide and the current ALP with the FAA shows a runway extension that will increase the runway to 5,500 feet long and 75 feet wide. By increasing the runway, it will accommodate larger and faster aircraft. Presently, the County's airport is an Airport Reference Code A-1. The ALP forecast for the future is Airport

Reference Code B-2. The reference codes are determined by how fast the aircraft is approaching the runway and how wide its wings are and that determines the airfield improvement needs. With an Airport Reference Code of A-1, aircrafts have speeds less than 105 mph and wingspans less than 49 feet and with an Airport Reference Code of B-2, aircrafts have a speed less than 139 mph and wingspans of less than 79 feet.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the following objectives were established, if the County were to develop the airport to its potential by 2022. To distribute a survey to pilots and corporations that having flying needs by May 2007, generate a pilot's advisory committee by July 2007 as a result of the survey, update the lighting system and navigation by September 2008, possible land acquisition, apron rehabilitation, and runway extension by year 2013. In addition, it was also suggested that Council might want to consider passing a resolution to assure the FAA that the County is committed to ensure all safety aspects are met.

The application submission to the FAA is July 3, 2007 for Federal Fiscal Year 2008.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana W. Burnett
Clerk