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City Receives \$5.68 Million to Rehab Main Runway at Brown Field Airport

FUNDING WILL HELP COMPLETE PROJECT AND ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH CURRENT DESIGN STANDARDS

SAN DIEGO – The City of San Diego will complete the rehabilitation of the main runway at Brown Field Municipal Airport thanks to a \$5.68 million grant from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The grant funds will also be used to change the signage for the airport's taxiways. The project is anticipated to begin this fall and be completed in spring 2018.

"We are very pleased that we have been awarded funding to complete this important project and improve Brown Field and ensure the airport is run safely and efficiently," said Cybele Thompson, Director of the City's Real Estate Assets Department. "With upgrades such as these, the City's airports will continue to operate as world-renowned general aviation transportation portals serving a world-class city."

The runway was originally constructed in the 1950s by the U.S. Navy when the Brown Field was still a military base. In 1962, the Navy deeded the airport to the City of San Diego with the condition it continue to be operated and maintained for aeronautical purposes.

The grant is part of the FAA's Airport Improvement Program (AIP), which helps fund airport infrastructure projects across the United States to enhance safety, capacity, security and environmental programs. So far this year, the U.S. Department of Transportation has issued \$2.8 billion in AIP grants to nearly 1,294 airports. AIP funds are drawn from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, which is supported by passenger ticket taxes, user fees, fuel taxes and air cargo waybills.

In 2015, the City's Airports Division received a grant from the FAA for \$4.37 million, and a grant from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for \$218,732, to reconstruct the eastern end of the same runway. Construction was completed for that project last year. Once the

rest of the runway is complete, it will be able to accommodate any aircraft expected to use Brown Field for at least the next 20 years. Also, the taxiways' names are not currently in accordance with today's naming standards. This project will correct that by replacing signs and providing clarity for pilots and air traffic controllers.

The City's Airports Division, part of the Real Estate Assets Department, operates two general aviation airports, Brown Field and Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport. General aviation includes all aviation activities except scheduled airline and military flights, although Brown Field accommodates a sizeable number of military operations. The two airports support a significant portion of the San Diego region's total annual flight operations, and can accommodate a variety of general aviation aircraft.

For more information, visit the City's Airport Division website and watch the new video: www.sandiego.gov/airports.

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