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 Tuesday, April 27, 2021

# **San Diego City Council Approves Lease and \$16 Million Project at Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport**

**FIXED BASED OPERATOR TO UPGRADE FACILITIES AND OPEN A NEW FLIGHT LOUNGE WITH VIEWING AREA FOR THE PUBLIC TO ENJOY**

SAN DIEGO – In a step toward modernizing the Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport and strengthening its role as an economic engine in the region, the City Council voted unanimously today to approve a lease and redevelopment of 26.2 acres at the airport. The \$16 million project, which will include new hangars and a flight club lounge with a viewing area, will help bring the 84-year-old airport into the 21st century.

**“Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport is one of the nation’s busiest airports and a major transportation hub for residents as well as business and leisure travelers,” said Penny Maus, Director of the City’s Real Estate Assets Department, which oversees the airport. “This approved project is a great addition of world class facilities at a general aviation airport that represents the eighth largest city in the United States.”**

Executive Airpark, known in the industry as a fixed based operator (FBO), has agreed to make pavement improvements, construct parking facilities, and refurbish and build 69,800 square feet of new hangar space. It also plans to create a 5,850-square-foot flight club lounge with a public viewing area, a fuel farm and a community aircraft wash rack.

Preparing for the future, Executive Airpark will also set aside space for an Urban Air Mobility hub that, once technology and regulation allow, will support a new type of energy-efficient aircraft. Long term plans also include the creation of an aviation museum for the public.

Executive Airpark will be located in the southern portion of the airport near Aero Drive, at the former home of Gibbs Flying Service. Today’s announcement comes as several other airport lessees recently unveiled their new facilities to the public and airport users.

**“We are excited to welcome these new improvements at the airport, which are needed to support strong economic growth,” said Jorge Rubio, the City’s Real Estate Assets Department Deputy**

**Director of Airports. “The development of this world-class aviation facility will improve aviation-related services, increase city lease revenue and continue to ensure the airport remains vibrant and competitive.”**

MYF Properties LLC, doing business as Executive Airpark, is a wholly owned subsidiary of Crownair Aviation, which also recently made \$15 million in improvements at the airport. Its new facility provides fuel, hangar space and aviation services to the airport’s critical users. Improvements include a new airport beacon and a 3,600-square-foot City operations garage.

Coast Air Center, the airport’s newest tenant, also invested \$9 million in improvements with new state-of-the-art hangars, a service center and fueling facilities. It houses one of the nation’s largest flight schools, which trains youth and aspiring pilots from all around the country to support the airline industry and the local economy.

Corporate Helicopters of San Diego, which leases hangar space at the airport, is in the planning stage of building a Helicopter FBO. From the new facility, the company will continue to provide helicopter-related services such as aerial tours, flight training and filming and photography. Some of their clients include the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department, the County of San Diego, General Dynamics and Southern California Edison.

The Airports Division of the City’s Real Estate Assets Department also manages Brown Field Municipal Airport. Combined, City airports support more than 1,500 local jobs and generate \$199 million in economic activity annually. Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport is also instrumental in preventing major delays at San Diego International Airport.

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