

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Mayor and City Council Members

FROM:

Jim Smith, Executive Director

Aviation Department

DATE:

June 2, 2016

SUBJECT:

Agenda Item for June 9, 2016

Austin Executive Airport Joint Zoning Board and Board of Adjustments

Mr. Andrew Perry, Executive Director for Austin's Executive Airport has requested that the City of Austin join their Joint Airport Zoning Board and the Joint Airport Board of Adjustment pursuant to Texas Local Government Code (LGC) Chapter 241 Municipal and County Zoning Authority around Airports. Austin Executive Airport is located in the eastern Travis County adjacent to the Texas 130 toll Road and Cameron Road intersection.

The purpose of this Joint Airport Zoning Board is to prevent any potential height hazards that can impact the safety to air navigation at Austin Executive Airport. The board must consist of two members appointed by each political subdivision; other political subdivisions to be represented on this board include Travis and Bastrop counties, and the cities of Pflugerville, Round Rock, and Manor. Each jurisdiction must also appoint one of these members to the Joint Airport Board of Adjustments.

The Aviation Department supports the request to the Joint Airport Zoning Board for Austin Executive Airport. On May 10, 2016 the Airport Advisory Commission approved a resolution to join the Joint Airport Zoning Board with appointments of Assistant Director's from the Aviation and the Planning and Zoning Departments. The objective of the Joint Airport Zoning Board will be to administer, enforce and adopt, the "Joint Airport Hazard Zoning Regulations and Zoning Maps" per Texas State Chapter 241 in their individual jurisdictions. The administering, enforcing and adoption may at times require the amending of City Code relating to Airport Hazards. This will regulate the height of objects and structures in the vicinity of the Austin Executive Airport. Any amending will follow the City's public process for City of Austin Code changes.

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Austin Executive Airport is crucial in supporting Austin Bergstrom International Airport as it is a reliever and reduces congestion of commercial service. The Austin Executive also provides economic impact for the Central Texas Region with an estimated 93 jobs and over 115 based aircraft. The City's participation in the Joint Airport Zoning Board will help ensure compatibility and safety of the Austin Executive Airport by protecting their airspace, from height hazards to air navigation.

Sincerely,

Jim Smith

Executive Director

Xc:

Marc A. Ott, City Manager Sue Edwards, Assistant City Manager