



Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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April 21, 2009

TO: Members
Joint Committee on Finance

FROM: Bob Lang, Director

SUBJECT: Governor's Section 13.10 Requests for the Use of Federal Economic Stimulus Funding for Airport Improvement Projects

REQUEST

The Governor has submitted two requests, in letters dated April 8, 2009, and April 17, 2009, for approval of the use of federal economic stimulus funding for airport improvement projects. In total, the Governor requests approval for the use of \$13,306,000 in stimulus funding for seven airport improvement projects, listed below:

<u>Airport</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Dane County Regional (Madison)	Taxiway Construction	\$4,000,000
Wittman Field (Oshkosh)	Runway Reconstruction	3,195,000
General Mitchell International (Milwaukee)	Runway Safety Area Construction	2,500,000
Austin Straubel International (Green Bay)	Runway Rehabilitation	1,500,000
Rhinelanders-Oneida County (Rhinelanders)	Taxiway Rehabilitation	1,219,000
Burlington Municipal (Burlington)	Runway/Taxiway Reconstruction	605,000
Dodge County (Juneau)	Runway Lighting Rehabilitation	<u>287,000</u>
	Total	\$13,306,000

BACKGROUND

The federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 provides \$1.1 billion nationwide for capital improvement projects at airports. Funds are awarded to projects by the Federal Aviation Administration on a discretionary basis, with priority given to projects that can be completed within two years and that would not otherwise be done with state and local funding

during that time period. Project awards are done on a staggered basis, with a requirement that at least 50% of the funding be awarded within 120 days of enactment.

The seven projects included in the Governor's requests were awarded funding by the Federal Aviation Administration under this program and were chosen from the state's airport improvement program list after making a determination that they would not have otherwise been funded during 2009.

CONCLUSION

The Governor's request for the use of \$13,306,000 in federal economic stimulus funds for airport projects satisfies a requirement in 2009 Wisconsin Act 2 that a plan be submitted to the Committee for the expenditure of such funds. Since the funding was awarded by the federal government for seven specific projects, no alternative uses of the airport funds are possible under the federal program.

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