



## Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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August 27, 2009

TO: Members  
Joint Committee on Finance

FROM: Bob Lang, Director

SUBJECT: Transportation: Governor's Section 13.10 Request for the Use of Federal Economic Stimulus Funding for an Airport Improvement Project -- Agenda Item VII

### **REQUEST**

The Governor requests approval for the expenditure of \$664,435 in federal economic stimulus funds for an airport improvement project involving runway safety area construction at General Mitchell International Airport in Milwaukee.

### **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 project included in the Governor's request was awarded funding by the Federal Aviation Administration under this program and was chosen from the state's airport improvement program list after making a determination that it would not have otherwise been funded during 2009. This is the second phase of a project that was approved for funding by the Committee on April 21, 2009, under an earlier request.

## **CONCLUSION**

The Governor's request for the use of \$664,435 in federal economic stimulus funds for an airport project at General Mitchell International Airport 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 this specific project, no alternative uses of the airport funds are possible under the federal program.

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