



TO: Mayor Shaun Sipma
Members of the City Council

FROM: Rick Feltner, Airport Director

DATE: April 20, 2020

SUBJECT: FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA) TOWER LEASE AT MOT

I. RECOMMENDED ACTION

1. Recommend approval of the FAA Tower lease at the Minot International Airport; and
2. Authorize the Airport Director to sign any applicable documentation.

II. DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSONS

Rick Feltner, Airport Director 857-4724

III. DESCRIPTION

1. Background

The United States Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), an agency within the Department of Transportation, leases land on which it operates an air traffic control tower (ATCT) at the Airport. This updated lease has a term of twenty-years, and memorializes the agreement between the Airport and the FAA.

2. Proposed Project

N/A

3. Consultant Selection

N/A

IV. IMPACT:

1. Strategic Impact:

Minot International Airport is home to the only contract air traffic control facility in North Dakota. Operated by the FAA, “Magic City Tower” coordinates aviation traffic departing from, arriving to, and taxiing on MOT. In 2019, Magic City Tower handled over 38,000 aircraft operations. Airlines, freight haulers, business aviation, agricultural sprayers, emergency medical flights, military operators, and general aviation all benefit from having this service available at our hometown airport.

B. Service/Delivery Impact:

Magic City Tower provides aviators with a safe, organized, and consistent experience when operating at MOT. The tower also helps Airport Maintenance staff safely maintain the airfield by ensuring separation between aircraft and ground vehicles operating in the movement area.

C. Fiscal Impact:

As is customary, in return for providing these services, the FAA is not charged rent on the land occupied by the ATCT. The lease stipulates responsibilities (financial and otherwise)

for the parties to follow throughout the term.

V. ALTERNATIVES

The lease is a standard FAA document for relationships of this type. While there is not typically much opportunity for modification, the Council could suggest changes that Staff could follow up on with the Federal Government.

VI. TIME CONSTRAINTS

Timely execution of the lease will ensure these services continue to be available at MOT.

VII. LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- A. ATCT Lease
- B. Exhibit A – Leased Premises