



TO: Mayor Shaun Sipma
Members of the City Council

FROM: Maria Romanick, Interim Airport Director

DATE: August 2, 2021

SUBJECT: PURCHASE OF ECOLOGIC MOBILE FOAM TEST SYSTEM FOR THE MINOT AIRPORT'S AIRCRAFT RESCUE AND FIRE FIGHTING (ARFF) VEHICLES

I. RECOMMENDED ACTION

1. Recommend Council approve the purchase of the ARFF mobile foam testing system; and
2. Recommend Council approve the budget amendment for the purchase of the foam testing system; and
3. Authorize the Mayor to sign applicable documentation.

II. DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSONS

Maria Romanick, Interim Airport Director 857-4724

III. DESCRIPTION

A. Background

In order to remain in compliance with the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA's) regulations, the Minot Airport is required to conduct testing of various aspects of its operations including the two Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) trucks. The ARFF trucks utilize a foam chemical that contains hazardous material which requires contained testing of the material. In an effort to become more environmentally cognizant, the FAA recommends vehicle system testing within 6-months of its annual certification inspection. It was recently brought to the attention of airport staff that the testing system originally in place was no longer viable in that a retrofit of the trucks would need to be conducted in order for the testing system to be successful.

As a result, City staff have researched various options including retrofit kits, test carts, and external testing companies. The retrofit kits are required for proper hook-up to a testing system, which cost approximately \$8,000. The test carts can be purchased for around \$30,000, and a testing company brought on site to test vehicles would cost approximately \$7,000.

B. Proposed Project

The Minot Airport would like to propose the purchase of the testing cart system, as it will have the ability to test both ARFF trucks on site at the discretion of City staff. This will allow for more convenient, timely, and accurate testing rather than having to rely on other entities to provide the testing services and capabilities, whether that be through a testing company or the local air force base or airport by way of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

C. Consultant Selection

Three quotes were provided during the research of the testing requirements. The quotes are as follows:

E-One:	\$29,750.00
NoFoam:	\$ 31,772.00
Oshkosh:	\$30,000.00

The Minot Airport would like to proceed with the low quote provided by E-One in the amount of \$29,750.00

IV. IMPACT:

A. Strategic Impact:

N/A

B. Service/Delivery Impact:

This purchase will allow for timely testing as required by the FAA and allow the airport to remain in compliance with the Part 139 requirements resulting in the continuance of providing commercial service.

C. Fiscal Impact:

The airport will utilize 2021 budgeted sales tax infrastructure funds currently budgeted for a snow removal equipment snow blower. The airport will be utilizing CARES funding for that equipment, which would allow \$29,750 of the budgeted \$42,666 to be utilized for the mobile foam test system. The airport will also actively pursue reimbursement from either the Federal Aviation Administration or from ND State Aeronautics, once funding is determined to be available, which is most likely to be in 2022. The reimbursement will range between 50% - 100% depending upon the reimbursing entity.

V. ALTERNATIVES

- A. The airport could purchase retrofit kits. This would result in the need to use a testing system belonging to another entity, i.e. the Minot Air Force Base or the Bismarck Municipal Airport.
- B. The airport could utilize the services of a testing services company.
- C. The airport could remain without testing capabilities resulting in non-compliance with FAA regulations, thus no longer able to provide commercial service to the Minot community.

VI. TIME CONSTRAINTS

Council's approval of the recommendation will allow for the purchase of the equipment and enable the airport to remain in compliance with federal regulations and the ability to continue to provide the Minot community with commercial air service.

VII. LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- A. Airport ARFF Foam Testing Cart - Procurement Checklist
- B. E-One Foam Testing Quotes
- C. NoFoam Testing Quote
- D. Oshkosh Foam Testing Quote
- E. Budget Amendment -

