

MEMO

To: Clint Spencer, City of Hermiston, Oregon
From: Joshua Lott, P.E.
Subject: **City of Hermiston, Oregon - Renaming of E. Airport Road**
Date: March 6, 2026
cc: Mark Morgan, Assistant City Manager
Byron Smith, City Manager

This memo is to address the proposed renaming of E. Airport Road. E Airport Road is located in the southeastern corner of the City of Hermiston’s urban growth boundary between U.S. Highway 395 and S. Ott Road. A portion of the road lies within city limits, while the remaining portion is within Umatilla County.

Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 227.120, Procedure and Approval for Renaming Streets, states that, “Within six miles of the limits of any city...the city engineer shall recommend to the city council the renaming of any existing street, highway or road, other than a county road or state highway, if in the judgment of the...city engineer, such renaming is in the best interest of the city and the six-mile area.”

Under ORS 227.120, the following two criteria must be satisfied for a street to be renamed.

1. The street must not be a state highway or county road; and
2. The renaming must be in the best interest of the city and the surrounding 6-mile area.

While E. Airport Road is only partially located within city limits, it is designated in its entirety as a city street rather than a county road or state highway and therefore meets the first statutory requirement.

Renaming the road is in the best interest of the City and the surrounding 6-mile area for multiple reasons. First, there is a road located approximately 2,000 feet to the northwest along U.S. Highway 395 named Airport Way. The similarity between “E. Airport Road” and “Airport Way” could confuse or impact package delivery services, emergency response providers, event attendees traveling to the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center, and other members of the public attempting to locate specific destinations. Renaming E. Airport Road would likely reduce misdirection and improve public safety and efficiency.

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Secondly, E. Airport Road does not provide direct access to the Hermiston Municipal Airport. Airport Way serves as the primary access route to the airport. Removing the “Airport” designation from E. Airport Road would eliminate unnecessary confusion regarding airport access.

For the reasons outlined and in accordance with ORS 227.120, Anderson Perry & Associates, Inc., recommends that the City rename E. Airport Road.

JL/tb

File No. 736-183-002

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