



Where Life is Sweet

Mayor and Members of the City Council
STAFF REPORT
For the Meeting of February 23, 2026

Title/Subject

Potential renaming of E Airport Road.

Summary and Background

In 2022 the City accepted jurisdiction over E Airport Road following installation of urban improvements to Airport Road as part of the overall construction and operations of the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center (EOTEC). There are two roads in the city's UGB, each sharing the name "Airport." Airport Way connects the Hermiston Municipal Airport to Highway 395 and E Airport Road connects Highway 395 and S Ott Road. E Airport Road does not in any way provide vehicle access to the airport itself. This dual nomenclature leads to a level of confusion, especially with delivery vehicles delivering items for properties located on E Airport Road to the airport terminal and vice versa.

The City has previously requested the Umatilla County change the name of E Airport Road to mitigate this confusion when Airport Road was a county road. At that time the Board of Commissioners held a public hearing and declined to change the name. With the jurisdictional transfer in 2022, authority over the street naming now falls within the city council's authority. Based on the recommendation of the Hermiston Airport Board, a request has been made to the city council to consider changing the name of E Airport Road to a different name and eliminate future confusion.

At this time no alternate name has been proposed.

Changing a street name is a process proscribed in the Oregon State Statutes and the city will follow the procedures established in ORS 227.120. Under this section, the city engineer shall make a determination that renaming a street is in the best interest of the city and a six-mile area around the city. If the council approves, the city engineer will review this issue and determine if renaming the street is in the best interest of the city. Upon receiving a recommendation from the city engineer, the council shall set a date for a public hearing on the proposed street renaming.

A map showing the existing street naming is attached to this report.

Tie-In to Council Goals

N/A

Fiscal Information

There is no financial impact from this decision.

Alternatives and Recommendation

Alternatives

The council should consider the existing situation and potential economic costs to affected property owners and determine if initiation of street renaming is merited.

Recommended Action/Motion

Staff recommends that the council direct the city engineer to review the street names within six miles of the city and determine if it is in the public interest to consider renaming this road.

Submitted By:

Clinton Spencer, Planning Director