

City of Independence - Strategic Planning Project Information Sheet

Project Title: Airport Master Plan

Department: Airport

Contact Person: Brett Soukup – Airport Director

Estimated Total Cost:

1. **\$350,000 Total**
2. **\$35,000 Local Share**
3. **\$315,000 Federal**

Project Timeline: Calendar Year 2028 – 12 Months to complete

The project cannot be split into phases.

Project Description:

This project involves the development of an updated Airport Master Plan in coordination with an engineering and planning firm. The plan will include detailed data collection, analysis, and documentation to guide future airport development and investments.

Below, are the reasons for completing this project:

- Establishing a long-term vision for the airport.
- Prioritizing infrastructure needs and improvements.
- Ensuring compliance with FAA and state planning requirements.
- Supporting future grant applications with a strategic framework.

Project Justification / Community Benefit:

The FAA and Iowa DOT recommend updating Airport Master Plans every 10 to 15 years to ensure alignment with regional and national aviation goals. A revised plan is critical for decision-making and helps demonstrate that development projects are part of a coordinated, forward-looking strategy.

Community Benefits:

- Supports economic development through aviation planning.
- Provides transparency and direction for airport stakeholders.
- Positions the City of Independence to be more competitive for future state and federal funding.
- Aligns with broader city goals related to infrastructure, economic vitality, and long-term planning.

Key Dependencies or Potential Roadblocks:

- The primary challenge is the cost, which can appear high due to the technical nature and regulatory requirements of the planning process.
- Coordination with FAA and state agencies
- Availability of grant funding for the majority of the project cost
- Timely access to relevant data and community input