

Merrill Field (MRI) CARES Plan Update

By Ralph Gibbs, PhD, ATP, CM Airport Manager May 19, 2021





- Use CARES as AIP match to more fully execute airport master plan projects debt free, many of which were postponed due to a lack of matching funds.
- Restructure airport processes to ensure airport economic viability after CARES expires.
- Next slide shows the proposed CARES spending plan through June 2024 with \$.5M reserve for future match requirements





2020-2024 MRI CARES Overview

GRANT	\$ Amount	Notes
DOT CARES I	\$ 17,898,469.00	exp 4/24
DOT CARES II	\$ 1,009,004.00	exp 6/25
Total CARES	\$ 18,907,472.00	
Plan CARES Dev	\$ 9,200,000.00	
Plan CARES AIP Match	\$ 666,850.00	
Plan CARES Operating	\$ 8,470,684.00	
Sub Total/RESERVE for future AIP match	\$ 569,938.00	

* FAA provided \$10M for Airport Access road w/o any match Requirement. Thus, net effect of CARES is plus another \$625K.
* CARES Development will be managed by the FAA just like AIP.





MRI CARES Priorities & 2020-2024 Vision

- Provide financial relief to airport customers (2021-Done)
- Replace Maintenance (MX) vehicles, snow removal vehicles (POs in process)
- Rehab MX spaces (Engineering In Process)
- Fund engineering for precision approach into and departures out of Merrill (Development In Process).



- Rehab Orca street properties, thereby improving MOA "interface" with Fairview neighbors (Engineering In Process)
- Acquire City Electric (CE) properties for development, to house high tech aviation companies, such as Launch Alaska (LA) (Waiting for Environmental study).
- Property includes a large parking lot, separate from three large office buildings, both suitable for development and revenue generation.



 Acquire flight simulators from SOA property disposal to continue Medallion Foundation mission to reduce Controlled Flight into Terrain (CFIT) accident rates in Alaska (Done-75K)

 Make flight simulation assets available to all flight schools on Merrill field, AK General Aviation pilots looking to keep their instrument skills proficient, and University of Alaska, Anchorage Aviation (Done)









 Build MOA Sim Center (10,000 sq ft) on CE parking lot (Waiting for Environmental study for next steps)

Pave CE parking lot for ORCA street businesses and CE property developers (Waiting for Environmental study for next steps)









Concluding Remarks

- Between AIP grants and CARES development, construction grant dollars into the Anchorage economy equals approximately \$34M!
- Questions?



