

BCC Actions

Notes from Your Jefferson County Board of Commissioners Hearings & Staff Briefings

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Staff Briefing

Energy Resource Opportunities with Xcel

The Development & Transportation Department staff presented opportunities for input from the BCC on implementing a strategy as part of the county's Energy Resource Conservation Policy. Some of the opportunities discussed included Xcel Energy's Windsource® Program, the characteristics of a clean energy future and how that fits with county energy policies and implementation strategies.

Xcel Energy has several programs available to the county, which could help achieve goals established in the county's Energy Resource Conservation Policy. Xcel Energy operates Windsource®, a subscription-based program that is the nation's largest voluntary wind energy program, in terms of customers.

The county will begin an energy audit this summer and anticipates a performance contract with an Energy Service Company shortly. Energy performance contracting will allow the county to divert funds that would be spent on energy bills into investments in building infrastructure and conservation programs. By choosing clean, renewable wind-generated electricity as part of the energy conservation strategy, the county can help meet its conservation policy objectives, demonstrate environmental and community leadership, help stimulate local economies and differentiate service locations as "powered by renewable energy."

In December 2007, staff briefed the BCC on modifying the county's existing energy policies and adopting revisions to create the Energy Resource Conservation Policy. Staff identified future strategies for implementation of energy alternatives to be brought to the Board at future briefings.

Airport \$363 Million Economic Impact

The Colorado Division of Aeronautics recently issued a report that shows Jefferson County's Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport (RMMA) as having more than a \$363 million annual economic impact to Jefferson County and the state of Colorado. Kenneth Maenpa, Airport Manager, presented the 2008 Colorado Airport Economic Study to the BCC during its May 27 staff briefing.

Economic impacts were estimated for 60 general aviation airports in Colorado, including RMMA. The study focused on identifying economic benefits associated with businesses and tenants that are located on each of the airports. The Colorado Airport Economic Study found that the 2008 economic impact of RMMA was \$363,251,100, up from \$275,740,000 in 2003 when the last study was conducted. Included in that assessment are 3,701 airport-related jobs that have an annual payroll of \$129,447,900.

RMMA is a financially self-sustaining entity that is owned and operated by Jefferson County. According to the report, the airport "continues to be one of the busiest general aviation airports in the State of Colorado." In fact, RMMA ranks third in the State behind Colorado Springs and DIA.

RMMA houses 420 based aircraft, with two fixed-base operators in Denver Air Center and Stevens Aviation. These fixed-base operators provide a wide range of services to the pilot community as well as executive and private hangar space for corporate and personal use.

As the study noted, "It is clear that the Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport remains a good neighbor and an essential member of the North Denver Metropolitan business community." The airport continues to make a significant contribution to keeping the community's economic engine running smoothly.

Business Meeting: Consent Agenda

County Policy and Procedures Updates

The Jefferson County Policy and Procedure Manual has been undergoing an overhaul for more than a year. The most recent update was to the following policy:

Credit Card Processing Fee

This policy allows county agencies to collect a credit card processing fee for credit card transactions. The Board agreed to support this concept based on recent implementation of an eCommerce application, which allows citizens to obtain certain permits online. To help offset credit card processing fees, a 1.75% charge will be included with transactions. For instance, a \$46 permit will include an 80 cent processing fee. The fee will be effective July 1, 2008.

As a county-wide policy, each agency can decide if they want to collect the fee. State law allows the collection of a nominal processing

fee under §29-11.5-103, provided it does not exceed revenues.

Contract for a New Traffic Signal

The BCC approved a contract for \$91,472 between Jefferson County and Integrated Electric, Inc. for services to furnish and install a new traffic signal. The signal will be at the intersection of Coal Mine Avenue and Coal Mine Drive to improve traffic operations and safety. The Highways & Transportation division requires the services of a private contractor to furnish and install the signals.

YOUR BCC

Kathy Hartman, Chair, District 3

J. Kevin McCasky, District 2

Jim Congrove, District 1

This publication is not intended to include everything discussed in the Jefferson County Board of County Commissioner's hearings or staff briefings but to give brief summaries of a few of the discussions or decisions. For the complete agendas and minutes of the meetings, please visit our Web site at www.jeffco.us/bcc.