

OFFICE OF THE FIRE CHIEF



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October 14, 2015

To: Tom Muehlenbeck  
Interim City Manager

From: Danny Kistner  
Fire Chief

Cc: Rob Daake  
Assistant City Manager

RE: 2015 Department of Homeland Security UASI Project

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Mr. Muehlenbeck,

Respectfully, the McKinney Fire Department requests Council consider approval of a 2015 UASI Project grant in the amount of \$250,000.00 for an aircraft fire simulator/trainer. There is no match requirement; however, there are installation and annual maintenance/operating costs. The grant provides for the simulator/trainer, controls, and connections for gas plumbing and any electrical connections on the prop. The City is responsible for site preparation, gas plumbing to the source, and source gas.

There is currently no similar trainer in the area other than D/FW airport.

The MFD provides continual airport/aircraft fire and rescue protection for McKinney National Airport from Fire Station #4 as well as protection to Aero Country airport from Fire Stations #5 and #7. All firefighters and officers assigned to Station 4 are certified by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection in the discipline *Aircraft Fire and Rescue (ARFF)*. To maintain certification, all ARFF certified firefighters must participate in at least one live fire training exercise annually.

The MFD realizes that *Operational Excellence*, *Airport Development*, and a *Safe and Secure Community* are goals of the McKinney City Council. Acquisition of this aircraft simulator/trainer helps to satisfy these goals by:

- Extreme realism and live training—training-in-context.
- Satisfy training requirements for ARFF certified firefighters. Maximizes preparedness for aircraft fire and rescue. Allows for participation of mutual aid partners who will be called in real scenarios.
- Keeps firefighters and apparatus in the City during training.
- Provides for fire and rescue protection to keep pace with airport growth.

The preferred location for the aircraft simulator/trainer is the joint Collin College/McKinney Public Safety Training Facility. Personal communication with the College resulted in a verbal commitment to providing a site/pad for the project.

**It should be noted that acceptance or denial of the grant must be submitted by October 26<sup>th</sup>. There is a risk that if the ARFF simulator/trainer is accepted and the preferred site at Collin College becomes unavailable, the City must find an alternate site at increased expense.**

The City is responsible for providing a propane tank and plumbing/conduit to the trainer. Installation costs covered by the City are estimated to be approximately \$7,500.00 with an annual maintenance/operating cost of \$8,850.00.

Respectfully, the Fire Department requests any installation costs be sourced from General Fund Contingencies, where there are currently \$300,000 budgeted. Ongoing maintenance and gas will be absorbed through the Fire Department Operating Budget.

For your consideration,

Danny Kistner  
Fire Chief