



City of Venice  
Office of the City Manager

MEMORANDUM

**To:** Mayor and City Council  
**From:** Martin Black, City Manager, AICP, ICMA-CM  
**Date:** March 22, 2006  
**Re:** FAA Orlando Meeting – March 21, 2006

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Fred Watts, MEA Group, Inc., and I met with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) staff on Tuesday, March 21, 2006 to review the current status of the City's work to update the Airport Master Plan, grant funding to assist with reconstruction of runway 13/31 and the recently completed appraisals.

Several items are clear from the meeting and include:

1. Safety zones for approach and take off will be critical elements for determining the extent of runway improvements necessary to meet FAA parameters.
2. The noise study completed by the City and previously accepted by FAA confirmed that the 65LDN (noise standard) was entirely within airport boundaries and therefore no noise mitigation efforts were identified as required by FAA.
3. FAA does not believe the City has the lawful right or the ability to limit or otherwise restrict aeronautical activity without a noise or safety study that would support that requirement. Note that previously completed studies did not support the imposition of these standards. \*
4. FAA staff was not able to suggest any means for the City to realistically enforce the voluntary guidance for preferred practices for take-offs and landings and pointed out potential conflicts with federal standards.
5. Runway 13/31 is the preferred runway as a result of predominant wind patterns and with our current status of grant application for 13/31 it would be unlikely that the City could address all FAA requirements and remain in the funding pool this year, if we were to modify our request to prioritize 4/22.
6. We are proceeding to bid for 13/31 in anticipation of receiving FAA grant funds this year with a bid opening in April and are required to obtain FAA-Orlando concurrence prior to award. While FAA-Orlando staff cannot confirm commitment of funds at this time, FAA staff and we are working cooperatively with an expectation of funding notice later this summer.

7. FAA Orlando staff confirmed similar comments provided with our previous meeting with FAA Washington staff regarding the uncertainty of next year's federal budget results.
8. FAA Orlando staff shared with us that several representatives of the Venice Neighborhoods Coalition have been raising objections to the City's Master Plan process and Airport policies, but FAA staff has confirmed that we are proceeding consistent with their expectations and requirements.

MB/rk

Cc CMO Staff  
Fred Watts, Airport Manager  
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