CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM

Issue: Memorandum of Understanding

Petitioner: Randall H. Walker, Director of Aviation

Recommendation:

That the Board of County Commissioners approve and authorize the Director of Aviation to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between Clark County and the Bureau of Land Management regarding the management of federal lands near the proposed Southern Nevada Supplemental Airport in the Ivanpah Valley.

FISCAL IMPACT:

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Added Comments: N/A

BACKGROUND:

The Ivanpah Valley Airport Public Lands Transfer Act of 2000 (Act) authorized the conveyance of federal lands in the Ivanpah Valley to Clark County for the development of a future airport. In 2004, the Board of County Commissioners authorized the purchase of the Southern Nevada Supplemental Airport (SNSA) property via Patent No. 27-2004-0104. Under the Act, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) were designated as joint lead agencies for SNSA environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). BLM and FAA, in conjunction with the Clark County Department of Aviation (CCDOA), commenced NEPA review of the SNSA in 2005. This environmental review was temporarily suspended in October 2010 due to current economic conditions.

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 requires BLM to consult with local governments to assure that the policies, plans, and programs of each are as consistent as practicable. The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to enhance consultation between CCDOA and BLM regarding managing federal lands near the SNSA; thereby identifying, addressing, and resolving potential conflicts between future SNSA construction and operations and other proposed land uses. This will be accomplished by ensuring (1) CCDOA receives from BLM timely notification of applications for proposed land uses potentially impacting the SNSA prior to BLM taking any actions on land use authorizations, right-of-ways, disposals, etc., and, in turn, (2) CCDOA provides BLM timely comment on said land use applications. The MOU will ensure compliance with the aforementioned and other relevant laws and will be of mutual benefit to BLM and CCDOA.

Respectfully submitted,

RANLDALL H. WALKER
Director of Aviation

Agenda Item #

Cleared for Agenda

3/1/2011