



News Release

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AIRPORT AUTHORITY TO BEGIN RE-DESIGN OF REGIONAL INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION CENTER AFTER INITIAL BIDS EXCEED PROJECT BUDGET

*Reduced Scope of Combined Rental Car/Bus Transit/Rail Connection Project Needed to Ensure
Successful Re-Bid; Transportation Center Functionality Can Be Preserved*

BURBANK, Calif., June 7, 2011 – The Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport Authority’s proposed Regional Intermodal Transportation Center (RITC), offering consolidated rental car facilities, a bus transit level and connections with the Bob Hope Airport Train Station and the Airport passenger terminal, will undergo a re-design in the coming months in order to achieve cost reductions following a first round of bids that exceeded budgeted construction funding. The project was put out to bid in April after a nine-month construction design process, and bids were opened May 25.

The Authority announced a construction budget of \$112 million prior to opening bids submitted by eight prequalified prime contractors, but the bids ranged from \$159 million to \$187 million.

Airport Staff presented the bid results to the Airport Authority Commission June 6 and outlined a go-forward process to allow a successful re-bidding of the project in line with available funding. “It is Staff’s commitment to deliver a project you can afford,” said Executive Director Dan Feger as he reported the bid results to the Commission.

(more)

TRANSPORTATION CENTER RE-DESIGN

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The go-forward plan is expected to add four to six months to the project timeline, moving the planned opening of the RITC from December 2012 to midyear 2013.

Analysis of the eight bids and debriefing sessions with the contractors pointed to a variety of reasons for the bids exceeding project estimates, Feger said. Chief among them was the cost of structural steel, projected as 40% of the overall construction cost, which came in up to \$1200 per ton higher than the procurement rate in other conventional steel projects.

Reduced steel subcontractor competition and non-conventional details – including large diameter round steel columns, base isolation and a trussed large-span roofing system – were seen as factors in the high steel bids.

Contractors also indicated that the tight construction schedule and complexity of the project introduced uncertainty and risk for them that translated into higher quotes than had been expected.

Cost-cutting measures identified so far by Airport Staff and the design team include elimination of one floor of the proposed four-story facility, simplifying the roof structure, using concrete rather than steel columns in certain areas, and modifying internal waterproofing systems associated with car wash facilities for the rental car companies that will be the primary occupants of the center.

Elimination of one floor of the center will also require relocating existing public parking spaces to a replacement parking structure that is part of the overall project, but the number of public parking spaces on the property will not change from the current inventory.

The initial reaction from the rental car companies is that they are and remain supportive of the project, Feger said.

The Authority will consider formal actions later this summer regarding additional services for design, negotiations with the rental car companies and for financial services.