



City of Denton

City Hall
215 E. McKinney Street
Denton, Texas
www.cityofdenton.com

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Development Services, Finance

DCM/ACM: Cassey Ogden, Christine Taylor

DATE: June 17, 2025

SUBJECT

Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton ratifying the submission of an application to the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Build America Bureau's FY 2024 Regional Infrastructure Accelerator Program in the amount of \$2,000,000 to implement an Intelligent Vertiport Traffic Flow Management System; and providing an effective date.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

This action supports Key Focus Area: Enhance Infrastructure and Mobility.

BACKGROUND

Authorized in the 2015 Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST), the Regional Infrastructure Accelerators (RIA) Program helps entities develop improved infrastructure priorities and financing strategies for the accelerated development of projects that are likely to be eligible for U.S. Department of Transportation credit assistance. The program provides up to \$2 million in funding for approved projects with no local match requirements. Accelerators serve defined geographic areas and act as resources to:

- Enhance the ability of state, local, and tribal governments to evaluate/manage private investments.
- Offer technical assistance and share best practices for infrastructure financing.
- Improve transparency in project analysis and innovative financing.
- Support the development of investment-ready infrastructure project pipelines.
- Combine smaller-scale and rural projects into more appealing, larger investment opportunities.

The proposed project aims to create a comprehensive implementation plan for developing a Vertiport in Denton. As part of this project, the City of Denton will

1. Develop a phased implementation plan that clearly outlines the distinct stages and objectives of the implementation process
2. Develop system specifications for an advanced air mobility traffic flow management system essential for the smooth operation of the vertiport.
3. Establish communication protocols and operational standards that align with FAA guidelines and the requirements of Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs).
4. Formulate a funding mechanism to support the implementation.

5. Design a sustainable business model that addresses commercial and public use cases for the vertiport in Denton and the broader DFW region.

The Transportation Services staff will complete the grant application and submit it to the USDOT on June 16, 2025. If awarded, the grant program requires no local match. (To be initiated after October 2025).

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the RIA Program ordinance.

FISCAL INFORMATION

Transportation Services is requesting \$2,000,000 in RIA grant program funding assistance. The grant program requires no local match.

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1 – Agenda Information Sheet

Exhibit 2 – Ordinance

Respectfully submitted:

Farhan Butt, Ph.D., P.E.,
Deputy Director of Transportation Services
Jessica Williams, Chief Financial Officer

Prepared By:

Sahar Esfandyari, Ph.D., AICP