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Nearly 70 local companies attend Gary/Chicago International Airport Business Expo Airport seeking local businesses to support Master Plan Update

GARY, Ind. (March 8, 2016) – Nearly 70 companies attended a business expo to support Gary/Chicago International Airport’s Master Plan Update. The companies met with C&S, Jacobsen Daniels and Landrum-Brown, the three firms shortlisted by the airport to complete the Master Plan Update. The Airport Authority has been committed to local hiring and the expo gave Gary and northwest Indiana companies the opportunity to get involved in the master planning process.

“It was great to see so many Gary and Lake County businesses come out to the expo today,” said airport chairman Stephen Mays. “The Master Plan Update is critical to driving growth at the airport and it’s important that our community grows with it.”

In November 2015, the airport issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) from firms to provide professional planning and engineering services to update the airport’s Master Plan. The Airport Authority has identified C&S, Jacobsen Daniels, and Landrum-Brown to move forward in the RFQ process. Once the firms assemble their teams, including local subcontractors, the airport will interview each firm before making a final decision. A percentage of the scoring will be determined by a local inclusion component.

Businesses specializing in the following services required for the Master Plan Update were invited to attend:

- Aerial Photography
- Audio Visual Equipment Services for Meetings
- Architectural Services
- Catering Services for Meetings
- Civil Engineering Services (roadway planning)
- Community Outreach Services
- Drafting/ AutoCAD Services
- Environmental Services (wetlands, noise, wildlife, etc.)
- Financial Services
- IT/Graphic/Web Hosting Development Services
- Land Surveying
- Land Use Planning
- Real Estate/Commercial Development Planning Services

- Reproduction/Graphics/Binding
- Stenography Services for Meetings
- Technical Writing Services with Aviation Experience

Dan Vicari, executive director of the Gary/Chicago International Airport emphasized the importance of updating the airport's Master Plan.

“The airport has made tremendous progress over the past few years, and now it's time to look to the future,” said Vicari. “As we launch this next chapter of development at the airport, it's important that our local businesses are playing an active role in that process. It was great to see so many local companies come out and express interest in doing work at the airport.”

The most recent Master Plan Study for the airport was completed in 2001. That plan called for several major projects, including improved Runway Safety Areas, railroad and power line relocation, improved and new facilities and extending the airport's main runway. The airport has accomplished many of the goals outlined in the 2001 Master Plan. Among them, completing a \$174 million runway expansion, and adding a second fixed-base operator, B. Coleman Aviation, as well as two new LEED-certified hangars at Gary Jet Center.

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