



Item: Public Hearing - Ordinance 3043 to Revise the Description of the Boundary of the International Airport Tax Increment Financing Industrial District

From: Bill Walters, Interim Planning Director

Initiated By: Great Falls International Airport Authority – Cynthia Schultz, Director

Presented By: Bill Walters, Interim Planning Director

Action Requested: City Commission adopt Ordinance 3043

Public Hearing:

1. Mayor conducts public hearing, calling three times each for opponents and proponents.
2. Mayor closes public hearing and asks the will of the Commission.

Suggested Motion:

1. Commissioner moves:

“I move that the City Commission (adopt/deny) Ordinance 3043.”

2. Mayor calls for a second, discussion, and calls the vote.
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Staff Recommendation: It is recommended the City Commission adopt Ordinance 3043.

Background: The City of Great Falls, through the adoption of Ordinance 3022 on November 5, 2008, enacted and approved the Great Falls International Airport Tax Increment Financing Industrial District, and an associated District Plan and District Boundary pursuant to Section 7-15-4299, MCA.

The Montana Department of Revenue, which is responsible for the certification of the Tax Increment Financing Industrial District (TIFID), notified the City through a written communication dated May 15, 2009, that the legal description for the Great Falls International Airport TIFID attached to Ordinance 3022 as Exhibit “B” is inaccurate.

In addressing the issue over the past several weeks, the Airport's consultant, who prepared the original description of the boundary of the Airport TIFID, worked with representatives of the Montana Department of Revenue and City staff to correct the description for the Airport TIFID as reflected by Exhibit "A" attached to Ordinance 3043.

The Montana Department of Revenue has indicated it will continue to recognize January 1, 2008, as the base year for the District provided the City expeditiously processes approval of the corrected description of the District.

Concurrences: Representatives of the Montana Department of Revenue, the consultant for the Airport Authority and City staff have participated in the revisions to the description for the Airport TIFID attached to Ordinance 3043 as Exhibit "A".

Fiscal Impact: The fiscal impacts associated with creation of the International Airport Tax Increment Financing Industrial District were previously presented and considered with adoption of Ordinance 3022 last year.

Alternatives: The City Commission could choose to deny Ordinance 3043. However, such action would force the Montana Department of Revenue to rescind its recognition of the Airport TIFID. Additionally, denying the Ordinance may also indicate the City is no longer interested in or supportive of creating the TIFID, which may negatively impact the Authority's and community's ability to facilitate the development and growth of secondary, value-adding industries at the Airport.

Attachments/Exhibits:

Ordinance 3043

Aerial Photo Exhibit

Cc: Cynthia Schultz, Great Falls International Airport Authority
Kathy Harris, Stelling Engineers, Inc.