Present: Chair D. Mitchell  
Vice Chair L. Ferguson  
Councillors C. Collins, T. Whitehead

Absent with regrets: Councillor M. Pearson

Also Present: N. Everson, G. Paparella, S. Renshaw, R. Sabo, J. Spiler,  
D. Cole, C. Biggs  
R. Koroscil, TradePort

THE AIRPORT IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE PRESENTS REPORT 07-003 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. Hamilton International Airport Lease Audit Results (Item 4.4)
   That the presentation from Evan McDade of Grant Thornton respecting the Hamilton International Airport Lease Audit Results, be received.

2. 2007 Community Investment Support Program (CISP) – Asian Foreign Investment Strategy (PED07173) (City Wide) (Item 5.2)
   That Report PED07173 respecting the 2007 Community Investment Support Program (CISP) – Asian Foreign Investment Strategy, be received.

3. Hamilton International Airport (HIA) Master Plan and Related City Lease Obligations (PED07175) (City Wide) (Item 5.3)
   (a) That Report PED07175 respecting Hamilton International Airport (HIA) Master Plan and Related City Lease Obligations, be received;

Planning and Economic Development Committee– February 20, 2007
(b) That the correspondence from Richard Koroscil, President and CEO of TradePort International Corporation, be received.

4. Further Direction on Strategic Land Acquisition Capital Program for the John C. Munro/Hamilton International Airport (PED07048(b)/FCS07042(a)) (Item 7.2)

(a) That Council reaffirm their endorsement of the Airport Master Plan (December, 2004) regarding required land acquisitions for the extension of Runway 06 in accordance with the Lease Agreement;

(b) That staff be directed to pursue further land acquisitions using the $7.4 million from the Airport Strategic Land Acquisition Capital Program, as approved in the 2007 Capital Budget;

(c) That prior to the City acquiring any additional lands surrounding the John C. Munro Hamilton International airport, exclusive of those lands specified in the Lease Agreement, that TradePort International submit a comprehensive business plan, including a detailed cost benefit analysis;

(d) That the comprehensive business plan be peer reviewed by an independent consultant, to an upset limit of $15,000, to be funded from the Airport Strategic Land Acquisition Capital Program.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COMMITTEE:

(a) Declarations of Interest

None

(b) Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the February 19, 2007 meeting were approved as presented.
(c) Updates

(i) Richard Koroscil, CEO and President, TradePort International Corporation

(aa) Airport Shuttle (Item 4.1)

Richard Koroscil thanked the City Council and staff for their support in establishing the airport shuttle. He advised the Committee that as the shuttle service has been in operation for approximately a month, results for its first month of service should be available within the next week. He also indicated that the numbers are increasing and pointed out that the vans are a great promotion for both the airport and the City in terms of advertising.

Councillor Collins indicated that there were questions from the taxi industry in terms of operation of the shuttle and how it conforms with current license operations. Staff responded that there is a separate by-law for taxis and a separate by-law for limousine services. The airport shuttle does not fall into either of these categories. Staff will investigate Councillor Collins’ concern i.e., what is the difference between taxis, limousines and the current operation.

The Committee was advised that the financial support for this program is for one year, until the HSR supplies service to the Airport through the 2008 budget process; however, the shuttle will be continue for passengers in the future, to be operated by the Airport.

(bb) FlyGlobespan Status (Item 4.2)

Richard Koroscil reported that FlyGlobespan started operating out of the Airpot on May 1, and has been operating at 90%+ load factors. The operations is at a point where Globespan has indicated that it will run year round, with a reduced schedule during the off season, and building back up in the marketplace next summer. Mr. Koroscil acknowledged that there have been some operational issues in terms of on-time performance, and they are working through those issues.
(cc) Fire Truck Purchase (Item 4.3)

Richard Koroscil reported that about a year ago, Transport Canada changed their regulations with respect to the provision of firefighting services at airports. The new regulations mean that services need to be upgraded and as part of the regulation change, Transport Canada would provide funding for such upgrades. Mr. Koroscil advised that funding from Transport Canada has been approved, and he is working with City staff.

Councillor Ferguson acknowledged the Airport staff in their handling of a recent incident involving one of the airlines operating out of the Airport.

(ii) Evan McDade, Grant Thornton

(aa) Hamilton International Airport Lease Audit Results (Item 4.4)

Evan McDade from Grant Thornton appeared before the Committee to present the results of the annual annual audit on lease agreement.

On a motion, the Committee deferred presentation and discussion of this item to the In Camera portion of the meeting as the information to be disclosed is proprietary information deemed to be commercially sensitive.

(d) Presentations/Reports

(i) Final TIACA Results – John Gibson/Sylvia Renshaw (Item 5.1)
(ii) 2007 Community Investment Support Program (CISP) – Asian Foreign Investment Strategy (PED07173) (City Wide) (Item 5.2)

In the absence of John Gibson from TradePort International, Richard Koroscil was available to respond to any questions of the Committee.

The Committee was shown a DVD entitled, “Hamilton – At the Centre of It All”, which highlights the industry, trade and commerce within the City of Hamilton and the pivotal role that Hamilton international Airport has in the economic success of the City. The DVD is the final result of a partnership project with TIACA.

Richard Koroscil thanked Guy Paparella, Neil Everson and Sylvia Renshaw for their work and support on this project. He indicated that this is the first opportunity to show the Airport in front of the air cargo industry, and there is a lot of interest in international cargo.
(iii) Hamilton International Airport (HIA) Master Plan and Related City Lease Obligations (PED07175) (City Wide) (Item 5.3)

Guy Paparella reported that on March 28, 2007, Council requested that TradePort submit a letter outlining their request for the City to acquire lands for runway expansion. In addition, staff was requested to prepare an information report respecting the Airport Master Plan and the strategic land acquisition program.

The Committee was distributed with a letter from TradePort, advising that the Airport is committed to completing Runway 06-24, and indicating that land acquisitions needs to begin as soon as possible in order to complete the project by the 2015 timeframe identified. Staff advised that approximately six months is required to acquire lands for runway extension. Medium-term projects are now leading to long-term projects i.e., extension of Runway 06-24, which will then be accelerated by a couple of years. Although the Master Plan is reviewed every five years, staff advised that a review can be done on an annual basis, making modifications as required.

Councillor Ferguson advised on the status of the fuel farm and whether this project is in jeopardy. Richard Koroscil indicated that the project has advised to a stage where an alternate location has been identified, and a fuel consortium is in the process of developing the plans.

(e) Other Business

(i) Correspondence from Paul Wisch respecting Hamilton International Airport – Ground Power Units (GPU's) and Auxiliary Power Units (APU's) on Aircraft (Item 6.1)

Staff advised that the correspondence from Mr. Wisch was forwarded to TradePort and a response has been forwarded addressing this request. Airport staff will meet with Mr. Wisch and consultant for further discussion and investigation.

The correspondence from Paul Wisch respecting Hamilton International Airport – Ground Power Units (GPU's) and Auxiliary Power Units (APU's) on Aircraft, and the verbal update from staff, were received.
(f) Private and Confidential

(i) Approval of Minutes of Closed Session Meeting held on February 19, 2007 (Item 7.1)

On a motion, the Minutes of the Closed Session of the Airport Implementation Task Force meeting of February 19, 2007 were received and will remain confidential and restricted from public disclosure in accordance with exemptions provided in the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

On a motion, the Committee moved into Closed Session at 10:50 a.m. to deliberate Items 4.4 and 7.2 of the agenda respecting the following:

(i) Auditor’s Report on the Annual Statement of Percentage Rent Computation;
(ii) Property Acquisition.

On a motion, the Committee reconvened in Open Session at 11:55 a.m.

Items 1 and 4 relate to the closed session discussions.

(g) New Business

None

(h) Adjournment

There being no further business the Airport Implementation Task Force meeting adjourned at 12:00 Noon

Respectfully submitted

Councillor D. Mitchell, Chair
Airport Implementation Task Force

Carolyn Biggs
Legislative Assistant
June 8, 2007