



**SOLANO
COUNTY**

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

To: Board of Supervisors
From: Bill Emlen, County Administrator
Date: September 3, 2024
Subject: Significant Issues Update

1. Solano County procurement team wins top award for service organization

It is an honor to report that the County of Solano received its first award of Achievement of Excellence in Procurement (AEP) from the National Procurement Institute (NPI) for 2024. This prestigious annual award is earned by those organizations that demonstrate excellence by obtaining high scores based on standardized criteria that measure innovation, professionalism, productivity, e-procurement, and leadership attributes of the procurement organization.

The AEP program encourages the development of excellence as well as continued organizational improvement to earn the award annually. The Department of General Services, Purchasing Services team, is responsible for the administration and execution of the public procurement process. In order to be competitive in this process, GSD procurement staff invested time improving processes and procedures, transitioning to a fully automated web-based electronic bidding system, streamlining the development of bid solicitations and evaluations, cultivating vendor outreach opportunities, leveraging competition performed by other government agencies, improving transparency and turnaround, increasing reporting capabilities, and promoting communication and collaboration with internal and external users.

For 2024, Solano County was one of 19 recipients to be awarded the AEP for the first time, others within California include the Cities of Chino and Santa Cruz, the County of Yolo, and the Ontario International Airport.

In addition to the National Procurement Institute, Inc., the AEP is sponsored by the California Association of Public Procurement Officials (CAPPO), National Association of Educational Procurement (NAEP), NIGP, and the Government Finance Officers Association, among others. AEP supporters include the National Association of State Procurement Officials (NASPO), The National Association for Cooperative Procurement, Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council, and the Universal Public Procurement Certification Council (UPPCC), to name a few.

The County's Purchasing Services strived to meet AEP criteria by implementing processes and procedures that are constantly evaluated and improved upon. It is the goal of the County's Purchasing Services to follow the path of continuous improvement and education to the benefit of all County employees, vendors and residents in the community.

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2. Update on Nut Tree Airport taxi lane reconstruction grant funding

The Nut Tree Airport has received notification from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) San Francisco Airports District Office (SF-ADO) that the County will receive an additional \$1 million dollars for the Northeast Hangar Taxi Lane Reconstruction and Drainage Improvements Project, Phase 2A. This

additional funding will allow the Airport to proceed with the full Phase 2A project. The total amount of FAA dollars for the project now stands at \$2,607,085.

Quick summary of the project:

In FY2016, the taxi lane pavement between the hangers on the northeastern side of the Nut Tree Airport were identified in an FAA funded Airport Pavement Management Plan as displaying high severity cracking throughout. Since then, the Airport has sought and successfully received federal and state funding to reconstruct this pavement in several phases over the last few years.

Phase 1, the main hangar taxi lane (shown as yellow on the attached diagram), was completed on November 4, 2022. Authorization to proceed with Phase 2A of the reconstruction went to the Board for approval on February 6, 2024. At that time, FAA had informed the County that they did not have the entire requested funding available to do the project and the project would have to be further phased. On April 1, 2024, the County applied to the FAA for \$1,661,632 grant to fund half of the Phase 2A reconstruction project.

A further phasing of the 2A reconstruction project was not preferred because it would delay by years the remaining taxi lane reconstruction as well as other work on the airfield, such as upgrading the runway and taxiway lighting. Acting upon a strategy recommended by the Airport's consulting firm Mead & Hunt, staff went with a two-prong grant application process involving a base-bid project for 3 of the 6 proposed 2A taxi lanes, and an alternate-bid to add the remaining 3 taxi lanes. This approach would make the County to be project-ready if additional grant monies became available.

Every part of the project, including the bidding, was done as two grant applications. The extensive extra work and increased cost of preparation has paid off with the County receiving notification that it will be awarded an additional \$1 million to do the complete Phase 2A project, consisting of 6 hangar taxi lanes on the southern side of the main hangar taxi lane.

Design for Phase 2B, the remaining hangar taxi lanes on the northern side of the main taxi lane, is 99 percent complete and funded through a separate Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grant. FAA funding for the construction of Phase 2B is currently programmed in the Airport Capital Improvements Plan (ACIP) for Federal FY2026. More details are available in the [Board of Supervisors agenda report](#), dated February 6, 2024.

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