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To All;

As you are probably aware the Airport Board and staff have been seeking a solution to the FAA requirement to establish an airfield design configuration for our Master Plan that would keep Runway 05/23 operational. Over the past twelve (12) months we have explored over eighteen (18) possible configurations in our effort to comply with the FAA directives and design standards.

In late January, at the direction of the board, we resubmitted to the FAA three (3) alternative designs for their consideration. We asked for a written response that was very definitive as to the FAA's expectations for our future airfield design. We received that letter from the FAA on Monday of this week after their participation in the RSAT meeting last Thursday.

The letter was taken under consideration by the Airport Board in their meeting this Thursday morning as part of the agenda. A complete copy of the letter is available for review on the Airport website at [jlnairport.com](http://jlnairport.com) and we encourage you to go there to review it in its entirety. The following is an excerpt from that letter.

The FAA writes;

***“There does not appear to be an acceptable solution, unless Runway 05/23 is closed. While we recognize that there may be some infrequent operations that prefer Runway 05/23, your airport design and operation must be tempered and balanced with the daily operational safety risks resulting from the Hot Spots, nonstandard airfield geometry, and nonstandard air traffic control procedures. These nonstandard conditions have increased potential for deviations, runway incursions, wrong runway takeoffs, runway back taxi operations, and situational awareness conflicts.*”**

***The FAA regards the resolution of the Hot Spots and the nonstandard airfield geometry as the highest priority at the airport. We appreciate your exhaustive efforts to analyze the various alternatives. We are committed to working with you to identify the best solution for a safe and efficient airport operating environment.”***

Based on the recommendation expressed by the FAA in this letter, the Airport Board voted (5-1-1) to move forward with an airfield design that will incorporate the ultimate closing of Runway 05/23. We will now direct the Master Plan engineer to complete the Airfield Design configurations based on this recommendation.

The Airport Board and staff would like you all to know that that we appreciate the input that was received concerning this difficult decision. As is outlined in the Airport Board Mission Statement our decisions are formulated;

***“Through objective and interdisciplinary settings the board will recognize needs, set goals, and provide guidance to the Council as it endeavors to provide Southwest Missouri with the finest commercial, corporate, and general aviation facilities possible.”***

Joplin Airport Board