

Request: The City of Gustine (City) is seeking \$ 2,500,000 in funding to design and construct the rehabilitation improvements to improve accessibility and functionality of the Gustine Municipal Airport.

Description: The City 's Municipal Airport is located on the East side of the City and is used by area buisnesses, travelers, local residents, and hunters. The improvements being proposed consist of of hangar rehabilitation and/or replacement, site improvements to increase airport use, upgrades to sewer facilities, water facilities, and fueling facilities.

Necessity: The City of Gustine is a disadvantaged small-rural community with a heavy agricultural influence and limited industry located on the West side of Merced County. The City has a small amount of available resources and a limited tax base to pull funding from and when possible, uses these funds to leverage other outside funding sources to complete projects. The airport currently has a small number of rented hangars and one fixed base operator (FBO) which does not provide enough revenue to put toward repairs and airport improvements.

The existing hangar facilities are in need of replacement, as most of the existing hangars are very old, lack basic amenities, and some hangars are unusable due to damage. The airport has access to limited sewer and water facilities on site. There is also a need to update and upgrade the existing fuel facilities onsite which is a major revenue generator for the airport.

The combination of these conditions make it difficult to attract FBOs that would significantly increase airport revenue and help fund repairs and future improvement projects. Furthermore, without these improvements to the airport, Gustine runs the risk of losing the existing hangar tenants and the single FBO. Over the past few years, the City has completed a number of projects to upgrade airport security and maintain the airport pavement. The magnitude of the project is such that without an outside funding source, the City will have a difficult time funding it solely with available resources and, as a result, this project and its improvements may not be able to be implemented in a timely manner.

Beneficiaries:

- City of Gustine Residents, Visitors, and Businesses
- Airport users and travelers
- Commerce and Goods Transportation

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