

Department of Port Control

Ordinance No.: 497-18

Cleveland Hopkins International Airport

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Department of Port Control is requesting authority to enter into one or more contracts without competitive bidding with American Airlines, Inc. for the purchase of up to five used passenger loading bridges, including but not limited to associated labor, equipment, materials, or services, for the Division of Cleveland Hopkins International Airport, Department of Port Control.

Background/Purpose:

The Department of Port Control (“Department”), in its ongoing effort to expand air service and support existing airlines, is requesting authority to enter into a Direct Purchase Agreement with American Airlines, Inc. (“American”) for their jet bridges currently located at gates Gate Numbers A1, A3, A8, A10, and A12 and associated equipment located on Concourse A at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport (“CLE”). These jet bridges, which are closed moveable connectors that extend from the airport terminal gate to the aircraft allow passengers to board and disembark from aircraft of various sizes. This equipment is considered an industry standard, which ensures the safety and security of all passengers, especially those with disabilities.

The City owns and operates common use facilities at the airport. Such common use facilities are for the operation of various airlines whose schedules necessitate them using, on a per-use fee basis, the common area ticket counters, gates and jet bridges. American has agreed to sell the jet bridges located at Gate Numbers A1, A3, A8, A10, and A12 to the Department.

The demand for access to common use gates at CLE has increased sharply with the addition of new air carriers and new flights added by existing carriers. That trend is expected to continue. The subject jet bridges will also be used frequently by new and existing, low-cost airlines whose business model does not include owning and operating their own jet bridges. In order to accommodate these airlines, the City needs quality jet bridges that it can rent to these airlines.

There is substantial cost associated with relocating jet bridges. The purchase also includes fully functional ground power units (GPU) and portable contained air units (PCA), which heat and cool the jet bridges and the aircraft while loading and unloading passengers, without the need for aircraft engine power.

The approval of this purchase will not only resolve an immediate need for fully equipped common use gates, but will also ensure future growth can be accommodated at CLE. It will also ensure the Department provides a safe operating environment for common use airport users.

Scope of Work:

A full mechanical assessment has been performed on these assets, and they have been deemed to be in good condition.

Justification/Urgency:

Gates at CLE have been converted to common use and must be equipped with functioning jet bridges that are able to accommodate a variety of aircraft types. CLE is also in need of jet bridges that can be rented to airlines that do not own and operate their own jet bridges. American's bridges are functionally sound and reasonably priced. The acquisition of these jet bridges will further enhance the Departments' ability to provide adequate facilities for our airline partners, and to allow for future growth.

Anticipated Cost:

The cost for this equipment will not to exceed \$2,100,000.00.