

**MEDIA RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



To: Ames Media
From: Ames Economic Development Commission
Date: February 25, 2016
Re: Ames Municipal Airport Updates

Attached: Renderings of the Airport Hangar

Hangar Construction Begins at Ames Municipal Airport, Terminal Private Fundraising Begins

Ames, IA – After months of fundraising, construction on the \$1.1 million hangar at the Ames Municipal Airport began on Monday (2/22) with the erection of the steel frame. Story Construction of Ames estimates the time for the building erection will be four to five weeks. The finished building will be 11,400 square feet and have capacity to house multiple aircraft. Its primary usage will be short-term storage for visiting aircraft.

The hangar portion of the airport project is being funded by the Ames/Story County business community as well as Iowa State University, Story County Board of Supervisors, Ames Economic Development Commission and economic development groups from Nevada and Story City.

“This project is critically important for the continued economic development and success of our region and we are proud of the public and private partners that have stepped forward to make the hangar a reality,” said Dan Culhane, President and CEO of the Ames Economic Development Commission. “When a business-owner or decision-maker for a company looking to locate or expand visits Ames, this airport could very well be their first impression of our community. It’s vital that we have an airport that accurately reflects the amenities and benefits that Iowa State University, the Research Park and Ames and Story County area have to offer.”

The second phase of the Ames Municipal Airport improvement project will be construction of a new terminal facility, adjacent to the new hangar. That project, to be led and developed by the City of Ames, is slated to go out for public bid later this spring. It will include a passenger lounge for 40-50 people, conference room, and training area along with updated amenities for passengers and pilots including a coffee bar, rental car area, kitchenette and restrooms. When completed, the terminal will be around 6,900 square feet.

The Ames Economic Development Commission has made a \$250,000 commitment to the cost of the new airport terminal as well as leading the partnership to develop and build the hangar. “Now that we have successfully funded the hangar improvements we are moving on to the fundraising related to our investment in the terminal. With \$50,000 of that money already raised and \$200,000 to go we hope to cross the finish line in the next several weeks,” said Culhane.

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