



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Council Session

Item I2

**#2009-272 - Approving Request for Service Pattern Change for
Great Lakes Airlines**

Staff Contact: Michael Olson

Council Agenda Memo

From: Jeff Pederson, City Administrator
Meeting: October 13, 2009
Subject: Service Pattern Change Request for Airport
Item #'s: I-2
Presenter(s): Jeff Pederson, City Administrator

Background

The Hall County Airport Authority Board has determined that the current service pattern for Great Lakes Aviation that connects Grand Island with Kansas City, Missouri is deficient and that air passengers from the area would be better served by changing the connection to Denver, Colorado. This determination stems from a decrease in enplanements and a growing concern about the future of Essential Air Service subsidy for the Airport with the present Kansas City connection.

Discussion

The Airport Authority Board, in a letter to Mayor Hornady, is requesting concurrence from the City for the formal request to the Department of Transportation for the change in the Service Pattern. This is a requirement of the DOT on matters such as this.

Unexpectedly, Great Lakes Aviation announced on October 7 that in fact the service pattern change would occur beginning on December 1 of this year. While this is very encouraging, the DOT has not yet officially sanctioned the move and in fact is awaiting the concurrence of the City prior to doing so.

Alternatives

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Council may:

1. Move to approve
2. Refer the issue to a Committee
3. Postpone the issue to future date

4. Take no action on the issue

Recommendation

City Administration recommends that the Council approve the request for Service Pattern Change for Great Lakes Airlines to Denver, Colorado.

Sample Motion

Move to approve the request for Service Pattern Change for great Lakes Airlines from Kansas City, Missouri to Denver, Colorado.



October 6, 2009

City of Grand Island
Mayor Margaret Hornady
City Council
100 East First Street
Grand Island, NE 68801

The Hall County Airport Authority Board at their September 9, 2009 meeting adopted Resolution 09-58, approving the request for a Service Pattern Change from Kansas City, MO., to Denver CO., with Great Lakes Airlines effective as soon as possible.

As part of the approval process, the Department of Transportation requires concurrence from the City of Grand Island Mayor for the Service Pattern Change that is requested.

This Service Pattern Change is due in part to the lack of enplanements from Grand Island, NE to Kansas City, MO. Also in the past three and a half years since the Kansas City service was initiated, connecting arrivals and departures to and from Kansas City have dramatically decreased. During this same period, the connecting arrivals and departures to Denver, CO have remained consistent and have actually increased.

I am seeking concurrence from Mayor Hornady and City Council for this Service Pattern Change from Kansas City, MO to Denver, CO on Great Lakes Airlines.

I would expect the Department of Transportation and Great Lakes Airlines to sign off on this Service Pattern Change immediately.

Sincerely,

HALL COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY

Michael J. Olson, AAE
Executive Director

Enc: Resolution 09-58

MJO:dkp

3743 Sky Park Road
Grand Island, NE 68801
Phone 308.385.5170
Fax 308.385.5179
FlyGrandIsland.com

HALL COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY
BOARD MEMBERS :
Ken Caldwell, Chairman
Lynne Werner, Vice Chair
Jim Roe, Secretary/Treasurer
Harold Rosenkötter
Curtis Griess
Mike Olson, AAE, Executive Airport Director

COPY

Hall County Airport Authority

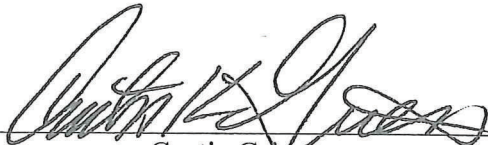
September 9, 2009

Resolution 09-58

**Request for Service Pattern Change from
Kansas City, MO to Denver, CO with Great Lakes Airlines**

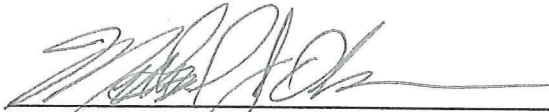
AUTHORITY ACTION TAKEN: Resolution authorizing the Board Chair to approve Request for Service Pattern Change from Kansas City, MO to Denver, CO with Great Lakes Airlines.

Chair: _____



Curtis Griess

Executive Director: _____



Michael J. Olson

A formal request will be presented to the City of Grand Island.

ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION 2009-272

WHEREAS, the Central Nebraska Regional Airport has been working diligently to improve the air service options available to central Nebraskans and to increase the number of enplanements from the Central Nebraska Regional Airport; and

WHEREAS, the Hall County Airport Authority Board has determined that air passengers are underserved by the current Service Pattern as has been documented by a dramatic decrease in service connections between Grand Island and Kansas City over the past three and one half years; and

WHEREAS, on September 9, 2009, the Hall County Airport Authority Board approved a resolution making a request to the Department of Transportation for a Service Pattern Change from Kansas City, MO to Denver, CO with Great Lakes Aviation; and

WHEREAS, the recommendation would serve more passengers in central Nebraska, and would be the best use of federal Essential Air Service subsidies; and

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Island supports the efforts to increase affordable, convenient options for air travel for central Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, increased air traffic to serve central Nebraska would be a valuable asset to the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Grand Island hereby pledge their full support, endorsement, and cooperation with the efforts of the Hall County Airport Authority in submitting a request to the Department of Transportation seeking a Service pattern Change with Great Lakes Aviation from Kansas City, Missouri to Denver, Colorado.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to send a letter to the Department of Transportation expressing support of such proposal.

- - -

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, October 13, 2009.

Margaret Hornady, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

Approved as to Form
October 8, 2009

City Attorney