DEN VOLUNTARY CLEANUP AND REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (VCUP)

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DENVER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

CONTRACTS OVERVIEW

- Part 139 airports like DEN have historically been required by federal mandate to use aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF) that contains per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) for aircraft rescue and firefighting (ARFF) activities
- PFAS have been referred to as “forever chemicals” due to their persistence in the environment
- DEN has taken significant proactive efforts to reduce the risks associated with non-emergency discharges of AFFF, including:
  - Using training foams that do not contain PFAS
  - Conducting airfield certification activities using water only
  - Input-based foam proportioner testing system
  - Working with the Denver Fire Department to transition firefighting rigs to a fluorine-free foam
- DEN was recently accepted into the Colorado Voluntary Cleanup and Redevelopment (VCUP) program, providing an opportunity to proactively identify and remediate potential environmental impacts associated with historic AFFF use
- These contracts will provide DEN additional resources in program management, site characterization, and environmental remediation, while providing the opportunity to work collaboratively with regulatory agencies and demonstrate environmental leadership

COLORADO VCUP PROGRAM

- Colorado's VCUP program was created in 1994 to facilitate the redevelopment of contaminated properties
- The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) leads negotiations of the investigation, standards, and mitigation/remedies across divisions
- Cleanup decisions are based on standards and the proposed use of the property
- CDPHE does not provide construction or cleanup oversight, which remain the property owner's responsibility
- Denver's previous VCUP experience includes the former Stapleton airport site and the Roslyn fire training facility
- The typical program is two years with a potential two-year extension
  - DEN is a large and complex site that is expected to be a long-term project
- Opportunities for university/private sector collaboration on innovative solutions

REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION

Request for approval of five contracts to support DEN's VCUP Program:

- Program Management (Brown and Caldwell): PLANE-202472361 – 10 years, $2,500,000
- Environmental Site Characterization (CDM Smith): PLANE-202472362 – 5 years, $5,250,000
- Environmental Site Characterization (Geosyntec Consultants): PLANE-202474277 – 5 years, $5,250,000
- Environmental Site Remediation (AECOM): PLANE-202472370 – 5 years, $3,500,000
- Environmental Site Remediation (Geosyntec Consultants): PLANE-202474287 – 5 years, $3,500,000

Request for approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement for a grant from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE):

- PLANE-202475868 – $500,000 through December 31, 2026, to support DEN's VCUP Program

CONTRACT COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- The three contract procurements were presented to interested vendors at the December 7, 2023 “Taking Flight at DEN” event, which was attended by more than 300 firms
- The contracts were then placed on DEN’s Business Opportunities forecast website for a period of 30 days before the RFPs were released

CONTRACT MWBE/ACDBE/DBE GOALS

- Program Management (PLANE-202472361) – 4%
- Environmental Site Characterization (PLANE-202472362 and PLANE-202474277) – 12%
- Environmental Site Remediation (PLANE-202472370 and PLANE-202474287) – 11%

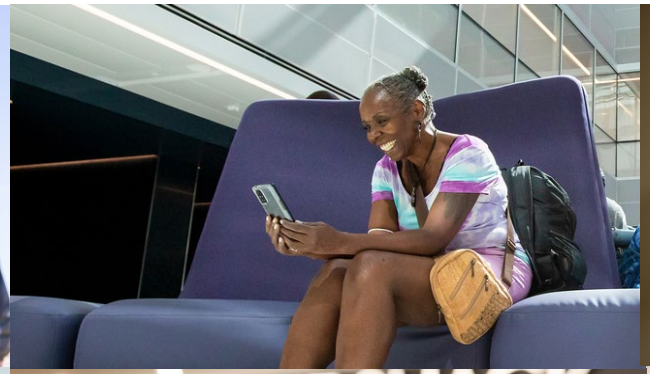
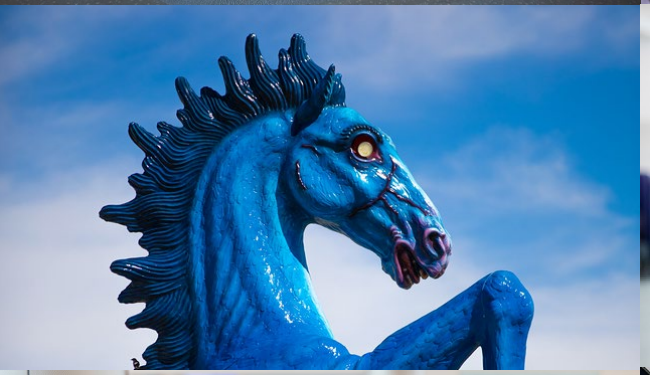
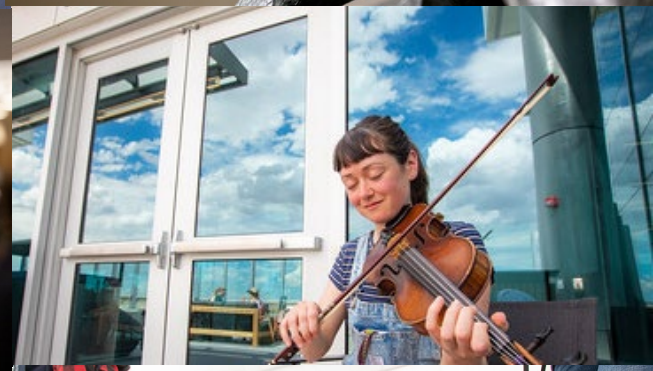
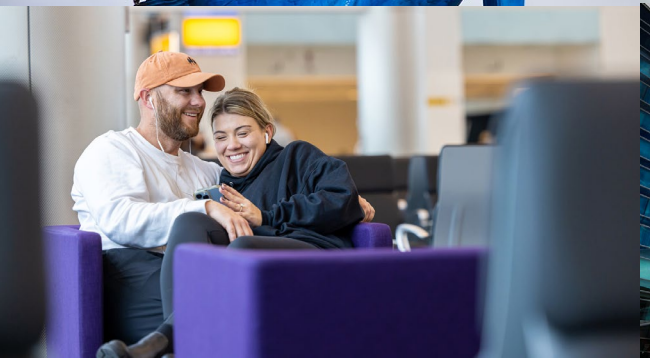
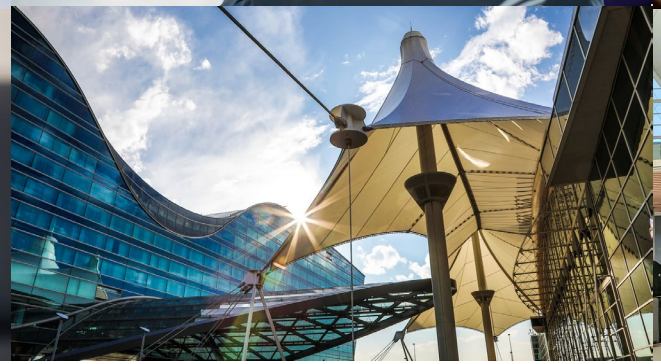
CONTRACT SELECTION PROCESS

- Three Requests for Proposals (RFPs) were issued on Feb. 6, 2024 on the BidNet website
- A mandatory pre-proposal conference was held on Feb. 15, 2024
- Vendor questions were due on Feb. 22, 2024
- Final proposals were received on March 21, 2024:
  - Program Management – six proposals
  - Environmental Site Characterization – 13 proposals
  - Environmental Site Remediation – 10 proposals
- Following written proposal review and interviews, final panel selections were made in May 2024

IMPACT/BENEFITS

- These contracts provide an opportunity to proactively begin investigation, delineation, and remediation of DEN sites that may have been impacted by the historic use of AFFF
- Participation in the VCUP program will provide a framework to access important technical resources and begin risk-based cleanup activities on an expedited timeframe with increased regulatory coordination
- The CDPHE grant represents a significant investment in DEN's VCUP program
  - Provides seed funding to kick off the long-term project
  - Demonstrates DEN's commitment to work in partnership with the State and transparently communicate progress to the community.

CONCLUSION

- DEN seeks approval of these six contracts so that the site characterization and remediation work can begin expeditiously and in alignment with the plans approved within the State of Colorado's VCUP program

THANK YOU & QUESTIONS?