



City of Glenwood Springs
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NEWS RELEASE

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City to Receive \$87,500 Grant from the Energy and Mineral Impact Assistance Program

Glenwood Springs, Colo. – The Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) announced on March 12, 2018 that the City of Glenwood Springs will be awarded an \$87,500 grant for an Airport Property Scenario Planning project. State Energy and Mineral Impact Assistance Program grants are funded through severance tax proceeds.

The Airport Property Scenario Planning project will include a Land Use Comparison and a Community Benefit and Economic Analysis for the 64 acres of City-owned land within and around the Glenwood Springs Municipal Airport. This land includes the airport, rodeo grounds, boneyard, and surrounding vacant or underutilized properties. Of the 64 acres in the study area, approximately 18 acres are unused land that is not developable due to steep slopes and the river bed.

The City of Glenwood Springs is currently involved in several revitalization initiatives but is faced with constraints of the geography of the Roaring Fork Valley. In addition to these constraints, the City has a fast growing population coupled with a lack of housing, major transportation, and other development and infrastructure challenges. The Airport sits on flat land with stable soil providing the potential for development in South Glenwood.

Planning will have three major components: stakeholder engagement and public outreach, land use alternative comparisons and an economic cost-benefit analysis, and a design concept product based on a preferred scenario. The City's 2011 Comprehensive Plan identified the airport as a "Future Study Area" and this grant allows for the determination of the best use for the land based on the project's alternative use findings and recommendations for implementation.

The project team will undertake targeted outreach to stakeholders and community members and conduct public outreach and education throughout the planning process. Stakeholders will include residents, businesses, government agencies and city departments, surrounding neighborhoods, airport users, the Airport Advisory Board, and Transportation Commission. This public engagement will contribute to an assessment of the political feasibility for various options and will begin to shape a vision for the property with community buy-in and support.

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