



RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL

Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Plan Implementation Commission

Recommendation Number (20240813-004)

Concerning the Disposition of the Mueller Browning Bow-Trussed Hangar

WHEREAS the Mueller Master Development Agreement (MDA) calls for a Plan to retain the Browning Bow-Trussed Hangar due to its historical significance:

WHEREAS the Hangar is treated as historic due to the exposed wood bow-trusses and the over 80-year storied history of the facility;

WHEREAS the *Mueller Redevelopment and Reuse Plan* (2000) identified the Hangar for community activities and/or publicly oriented uses;

WHEREAS the Hangar structure has, at considerable expense, been stabilized and a new roof covering installed (in 2007-2008);

WHEREAS the Hangar, since 2008, has been utilized mostly for free by the public, small groups, and Mueller Lake Park patrons (in addition to paid users, with reservations through Catellus) – contributing to the great success of the park, with the Hangar and property a widely recognized public amenity;

WHEREAS the Hangar is closely associated by the public with Mueller Lake Park, due to its proximity to the Park; and there is a community effort dedicated to preserving the Hangar as a public amenity and gathering space, as well as community concerns of it not being free and open to the public;

WHEREAS the Master Development Agreement states, in *Article 8.9(a)*, that the Long-Term Plan for the Hangar “may include the sale or lease of the Bow-Trussed Hangar.”

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the RMMA PIAC recommends the Austin City Council consider;

- That the Long-Term Plan will consider the lease, in addition to the sale, of the Bow-Trussed Hangar and property.
- Ensuring the Hangar has public accessibility by way of a restrictive covenant, pedestrian access easement, or similar means.
- That the provision of food, beverages and public restrooms at the Hangar be considered as part of the Long-Term Plan.
- That Historic Zoning be pursued with the City of Austin Historic Landmark Commission.
- That a City of Austin partnership with a community-based nonprofit organization be considered as part of a long-term Hangar management plan, including exploring the possible establishment of a conservancy for support.

(END)

Date of Approval: August 13, 2024

Record of the vote: 8-0; Commissioner Sokolic abstained; Commissioners Luecke and Neider were absent.

Attest: *H. Katherine Clark*

Kate Clark, Staff Liaison

Robert Mueller Municipal Airport Plan Implementation Advisory Commission