REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

REVIEW OF
SECURITY
AT
FLYING CLOUD AIRPORT

Prepared by
Flying Cloud Airport Advisory Commission
July 20, 2010

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Background

In 2007, the City Council requested the Flying Cloud Airport Advisory Commission to begin evaluating security at Flying Cloud Airport. These ongoing evaluations utilize experts in their respective fields, and typically include: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and/or Transportation Security Administration (TSA); Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) staff; Eden Prairie Police and Fire Departments; and others as necessary, such as the Flying Cloud Airport Control Tower Chief, and Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA). Reports were completed in 2007 and 2008.

Summary of 2008 Review of Security at Flying Cloud Airport

Accomplishments

- Eden Prairie Police assigns an airport liaison officer who attends various events and works to educate and build relationships.
- Eden Prairie Fire assigns an inspector dedicated to inspection of airport hangars and businesses.
- Majority of the airport businesses have joined the City's "Partnership for Emergency Readiness" for information sharing.
- The current Flying Cloud Airport Security Guides were hand delivered to all commercial tenants on the field.

Recommendations

1. Continue to focus on efforts to strengthen the "Community Watch" by airport businesses and tenants.
2. Establish a biennial security reporting schedule, or as needed.

Recent Improvements at Flying Cloud Airport

Since the 2008 Report, the following improvements have been completed by MAC:

- Extension and widening of the south parallel runway from 3,900 ft to 5,000 ft.
- New ILS approach and guidance lighting
- Visual approach lighting
- VOR relocated east of Flying Cloud Drive
- South side building area infrastructure completed
- Removal of old hangars deemed as obstructions
- Perimeter road around airport separating airside and landside movements
- Installation of new security fence completely around the airport, together with locked key pad access gates
- Sanitary sewer and water installed along north side hangar area
- Redevelopment of new hangars on north side hangar area

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2010 Review of Security at Flying Cloud Airport

The Flying Cloud Airport Advisory Commission met on May 13, 2010 to discuss airport security. Invited guests included Rob Reynolds, Eden Prairie Police Chief, George Esbensen, Eden Prairie Fire Chief, Chris Knowles, TSA Inspector, and Mitch Anderson, pilot and Airport Support Network Volunteer for the AOPA.

<u>Eden Prairie Police</u>

Chief Reynolds reported physical security at the airport continues to move in the right direction, especially with the improvements of the locked gates with key pad access. He also commended the design for accessing the future south hangar, separating airside and landside movements. The street layout, which is served by a single-access point along Charlson Road, will prevent accidental incursions with airport operations.

Reynolds said the number of police calls on airport issues is low and nothing stands out in any of the incidents. Most calls were either unfounded or minor incidents (Exhibit A).

He said the Eden Prairie liaison officer working with the airport community will continue to meet with the airport businesses to keep lines of communication open. Reynolds encourages users of the airport to be watchful and explained this is the best plan for an airport the size of Flying Cloud. MAC is also working on a Letter of Agreement between Police, Fire, MAC and the tower so they have an open line of communication and availability 24/7.

A recent training event with the Eden Prairie Response Team was conducted at the airport. An airport business volunteered full access to an aircraft for a number of hours while conducting the training. Additional training is contemplated

Reynolds said the City also has an on-going wildlife management program in that area. MAC has a contract for wildlife services and is on call 24/7.

<u>Eden Prairie Fire</u>

Chief Esbensen reported his staff continues to do fire inspections at the airport. Like law enforcement, the Fire Department has become part of a strategy for presence by monitoring what is going on at the airport. Their relationship with MAC and the FBO's is highly unusual as is the level of cooperation. To start this program was a huge undertaking because they had to inspect every hangar and now it is more of a maintenance inspection program. Esbensen said the Fire Department will continue their program of being visible at the airport.

Twenty-nine inspections were completed during the time period. Most were hazardous materials inspections at the FBO's. Two inspections were for the Air Expo and two inspections were with the new locking gates. The Fire Department used the emitter to

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make sure the gates were in working order. During the recent airport construction, they made sure the Fire Department had access to the field.

Esbensen said he and his staff are quite pleased with what has been going on at the airport including the extension of the water mains. This allowed people to add fire suppression systems to their hangars. The Fire Department has also conducted a few training sessions at the airport with MAC's assistance. The partnership with the stakeholders at the airport is a good model for others and it does work. The level of cooperation is extremely high.

Esbensen said his department has obtained maps from MAC to help navigate hangar areas more efficiently during emergencies. Also, allowing Eden Prairie Commanders in the control tower during emergencies helps in coordinating these events.

Transportation Security Administration

Transportation Security Inspector Knowles said Flying Cloud is a model airport with the cooperation of the Fire and Police Departments. The police program includes routine stops at the airport which is really important and he encourages this participation. Knowles said TSA was very happy to hear about the fence and gates erected around the airport. This addresses safety concerns and also prevents pedestrian traffic from entering the airside operation areas.

There are very few general aviation airports that have the level of security as Flying Cloud does. Knowles said anything MAC and this Commission can do to continue to enhance the posture of the airport keeps you ahead of everyone else and keeps the airport off the radar. He added Flying Cloud is so far ahead of the game he has no recommendation other than to get their tenants involved and keep them involved. The City and MAC have a great policing program and everyone he has talked to speaks very highly of Flying Cloud Airport and considers this a model airport.

When asked if Flying Cloud Airport could become an enticing airport from which to cause harm, Knowles said he does not know what would make Flying Cloud any more enticing to someone than another airport. There are a number of airports within a 50-mile radius and because of Flying Cloud's size it is probably not realistic that something would happen at this airport. He said someone looking at Flying Cloud and seeing the Police and Fire Departments presence would more than likely go to some other airport. Knowles said general aviation airports are very fortunate in that the pilots and tenants have a vested interest so they are very much aware of what is going on at their airport.

Pilot and AOPA Airport Support Network Volunteer

Mitch Anderson is a Chaska resident and member of a flying club that operate a number of aircraft out of Flying Cloud Airport. He is also an active Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) support network volunteer and his position is to keep attuned to

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issues relating to general aviation for AOPA, both pro and con. He also promotes AOPA's Airport Watch Program, based on the successful Neighborhood Watch Program.

According to Mr. Anderson, Airport Watch is a function of the tenants and the users of this airport. These people are familiar with what is going on around the airport and know when it doesn't look right. Anderson said airport users are key players in airport security and can notify local law enforcement and AOPA. This program is done in partnership with TSA.

He reported there are 600,000 AOPA members and they are regularly updated on the Airport Watch program. They also developed a program called "Lock Up and Look Out" to secure hangars and the aircraft within them. The intent is to have two levels of security. Mr. Anderson also indicated the partnership between Eden Prairie Police and Fire, and MAC is great, while working cooperatively to keep the airport viable and safe.

MAC's Jeff Nawrocki reported they have taken the information Anderson provided along with information from Police and Fire to update the 2010 version of MAC's Flying Cloud Airport Security Guide. This guide has been distributed to all FBO's and the Flying Cloud control tower.

Flying Cloud Airport Advisory Commission Findings

1. Based on the experts involved, Flying Cloud Airport is considered secure and a model for others to follow.

2. The experts all agree the Flying Cloud Airport has exceeded the security requirements for a typical airport of its size and type. At this time no further security suggestions or improvements have been identified by the experts,

3. MAC has a great working relationship with the City Police and Fire.

4. MAC, working with AOPA airport support network, continues to strengthen the "Community Watch" by airport businesses and tenants.

SELECT CALL DESCRIPTIONS

Airport activity consists mainly of fire inspections, public assists (open door calls) and assistance to other agency/tower to check on plane status. Activity includes sounds of revving engines, low flying planes and checking for overdue aircraft. Suspicious incidents have mainly been people walking, biking or driving on airport grounds unaware this is not allowed as well as the occasional traffic stop. There was an identity theft as well as theft of a television reported. Overall crime is incident only activity.

Assist Other Agency
09011835 – Assisted Homeland Security tracking a suspicious plane from AZ. Sought assistance obtaining information on location of plane covertly. Plane located. Assistance no longer needed.

Disturb the Peace
08042602 – Sound of planes revving engines in area of tower.
08049732 - Sound of planes revving engines in area of tower
08049739 – Low flying plane

Public Assist
2010-6942 – Check for overdue aircraft – plane located
09021902 - Check for overdue aircraft – plane located
09034163 – People gathering at edge of airport – please remove from property
09039619 - Check for overdue aircraft – plane located
09058077 – Crane NE of airport causing problems
08040433 – Shooting permit
09037528 – Shooting permit
08018791 – Plane was flying overhead and pilot believed someone was shining a laser at plane. Tower requesting drive-through of Hennepin Village area. Unable to locate.

Suspicious Incident
08019851 – People walking on service road for hangers – said he was just watching the planes
08034458 – Person on bike – watching planes

Suspicious Person
2010-7229 – Vehicle tailgating – gone on arrival
2010-8562 – Check on running vehicle – Incident cleared not suspicious.
09022805 – Suspicious vehicle at maintenance shed - Contractors are making new road at airport.
08025904 – Someone biking around on airport and on taxi ways. Party had lessons at Hummingbird and was unaware of proper navigation on airport grounds.

Suspicious Vehicle
09031000 – Open door in hanger
09053612 – Couple watching meteor shower
09059913 – suspicious vehicle – Incident cleared not suspicious.
08037177 – warning – verbal – Incident cleared not suspicious.
08038435 – warning – verbal – Incident cleared not suspicious.
08036970 – ASI off Pioneer – TSA no problems.

Theft
09050304 – TV taken from hanger
08024977 – Taxi passenger unhappy with route – took driver's keys and refused to pay fare.
08018525 – Identity theft

Wildlife problem
08031799 – raccoons in dumpster

	Totals
Traffic Stop	6
911 Hang Up	2
False Alarm	2
Assist Other Agency	1
Crash MV Property Damage	2
Directed Patrol	1
Disturb the Peace	3
Dog at Large	1
Fire Inspection	14
Fire-Misc	2
In Flight Emergency	5
Lockout	2
Medical - Cardiac	1
Medical - Other	8
Medical - Psychiatric	1
Motorist Assist	2
Open Door	13
Parking Complaint	4
Public Assist	9
Shooting Permit	2
Suspicious Incident	2
Suspicious Person	4
Suspicious Vehicle	7
Theft	3
Traffic - Verbal Warning	8
Wildlife Problem	1