



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** October 30, 2012

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Airport Department

**SUBJECT:** Potential Naming Of The New Santa Barbara Airport Airline Terminal

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council consider all requests and recommendations received to date regarding naming the new airline terminal building and direct staff what actions to take, if any, in that regard.

### **DISCUSSION:**

#### Background

The new airline terminal construction was opened for operation on August 17, 2011. On August 3, 2011, Mack S. Staton, President of the Santa Barbara County Bar Association, submitted a request to name the new airline terminal after John T. Rickard. On August 24, 2011, Edward Hartfeld submitted a request to name the new airline terminal after Dwight Murphy.

The City of Santa Barbara Municipal Code Chapter 22.48, adopted in 1971, provides a process for such requests to be considered by the City. The Municipal Code establishes principles, policies, and procedures for the election of names for public facilities.

In accordance with the Municipal Code, the Airport Commission held a public hearing at its regular meeting of February 15, 2012 to consider the requests to name the new terminal building. The Airport Commission made a unanimous recommendation to Council that the new airline terminal building retain its current name and not be named for an individual.

On July 24, 2012 Council received the Airport Commission's recommendation and received comments from Mr. Hartfeld and Mr. Staton regarding the naming of the new terminal building. Council voted to delay any action on the request for 90 days, during which time community members would be invited to submit recommendations to Council regarding the naming of the terminal.

On September 4, 2012 the City issued a press release advising the public to send a letter or an email to the Airport Director with their suggestions and input about naming the new airline terminal building.

#### Current Airport Facilities Named for Individuals

1948 – Council named 25 airport streets for local aviators who gave their lives during World War II.

1969 – The Santa Barbara Air Terminal was renamed and dedicated to Earle L. Ovington.

1970s – The Santa Barbara Airport airfield was dedicated to former Airport Commissioner Thomas McDermott.

1978 – A plaque was dedicated to the role and major effort former Mayor Patrick J. Maher played in the acquisition of the airport land for the City of Santa Barbara.

Daughters of both former Mayor Patrick J. Maher and former Airport Commissioner Thomas McDermott contacted the City to ensure that the recognition bestowed upon their fathers would not be affected by the potential naming of the new airline terminal building.

#### Community Response

The Airport Director received 76 emails and letters with recommendations. Community comments were also posted on online newspaper websites and in the print media Letters to the Editor.

The recommendations ranged from maintaining the current name for the airline terminal building to names reflecting California and local history and culture. There were also recommendations made for a number of local individuals who contributed to the community.

**ATTACHMENT:** List of Community Recommendations for Naming the Santa Barbara Airline Terminal

**SUBMITTED BY:** Karen S. Ramsdell, Airport Director

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office