

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA

RESOLUTION 2018/___

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF
BUCHANAN FIELD AIRPORT AND BYRON AIRPORT
TO THE AERONAUTICAL COMMUNITY AND THE ECONOMIC GROWTH OF
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

WHEREAS the County of Contra Costa (the "County") is the ninth most populous county in California and is centrally located in the San Francisco Bay Area; and

WHEREAS the County operates two public airports: Buchanan Field Airport in Concord, and Byron Airport in Byron, together serving a diverse mix of aviation and non-aviation businesses and providing a base of operation to over 600 aircraft; and

WHEREAS the businesses operated and aircraft based at Buchanan Field Airport and Byron Airport generated approximately \$106 million in total direct and indirect annual economic output in 2016, which includes the creation of 828 jobs, \$8 million in state and local revenue, and \$10.2 million in federal tax revenue; and

WHEREAS Buchanan Field Airport and Byron Airport are operated and maintained without the use of County General Funds; instead, each contributes revenue to the County General Fund each year; and

WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2015-2016, Buchanan Field Airport and Byron Airport, together, contributed approximately \$2.77 million to the County General Fund, \$1.2 million to local schools, and \$273,216 to other public entities from associated possessory interest and sales tax; and

WHEREAS the economic impact of the County airports increases substantially with each new business development and each time an operator chooses to base an aircraft at Buchanan Field Airport or Byron Airport. One new executive hangar development that stores five aircraft that are new to the airport could equate to \$275,000, or more, annually to the County General Fund from associated possessory income tax; and

WHEREAS the total revenue generated by Buchanan Field Airport and Byron Airport has increased by over 29% since 2010; and

WHEREAS Buchanan Field Airport and Byron Airport have been awarded approximately \$6.8 million in grants from the Federal Aviation Administration, and approximately \$242,500 in grants from the California Transportation Authority since 2010, in support of various facility and infrastructure improvement projects; and

WHEREAS County airport staff have received numerous professional awards, including the American Association of Airport Executives Excellence Award for Airport Training 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 (and expected in 2018), the John Martin Partnered Project of the Year in 2013 from the International Partnering Institute, and the Quality in Construction Award in 2012 from the National Asphalt Pavement Association; and

WHEREAS Buchanan Field Airport has maintained its Federal Aviation Administration Commercial Operating Certificate since December 24, 1974, and recently attracted scheduled charter passenger service between Buchanan Field Airport and two popular destinations: Burbank and Las Vegas; and

WHEREAS both Buchanan Field Airport and Byron Airport have land available for development; and

WHEREAS the County airports operate as a business in a competitive market where tenants, business operators, and other airport users can choose among multiple airport options in the region, thus creating the need for the County airports to maintain a competitive spirit and to proactively position themselves as the airports of choice in the region;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County as follows:

1. Buchanan Field Airport and Byron Airport are essential economic engines that aid the County in meeting the current and future transportation and economic needs of the community.
2. The Director of Airports shall continue to actively pursue innovative and sustainable opportunities to enhance airport facilities and partnerships to remain competitive in the regional marketplace.
3. The Director of Airports will work closely with the County Administrator's Office and the County's Office of Economic Development to further the economic development potential of airports, as they are capital assets to the County and an integrated transportation asset to the Bay Area region.