



**CITY OF DANIA BEACH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
STAFF REPORT**

DATE: February 14, 2012

TO: Robert Baldwin, City Manager

FROM: Robert Daniels, Director *Robert Daniels*

SUBJECT: **Airport Advisory Board Recommendations**

The City of Dania Beach Airport Advisory Board met on January 26, 2012 and forwarded three recommendations to the City Commission for consideration.

1. The board recommended that the County be requested to participate with the City to fund the preparation of a study by graduate level students from a local university to develop a long-term viability program or strategy for residential neighborhoods affected by the airport project.

The board discussed the need for stabilization of residential neighborhoods. In late 2010 Future Land Use Plan amendments that were being processed to implement parts of the *West Side Master Plan* were withdrawn by staff because of strong neighborhood opposition to the removal of the residential component in parts of the area. Residents expressed their intention to remain in their homes despite the expected impacts of the airport expansion. In light of those sentiments staff will re-evaluate the recommendations of the *West Side Master Plan* in the coming year. The development of a long-term viability program or strategy for residential neighborhoods would be an important part of that effort. The use of graduate level input would be helpful and is likely to be less expensive than hiring professional consultants. Community Development staff is working with the City's Finance Department to ensure that proper procurement methods are followed in soliciting assistance from universities.

2. The board recommended that the City request that the County ensure that all air conditioning units being used in the sound insulation program have a seasonal energy efficiency rating (SEER) of 20 or higher.

The board had a lengthy discussion about the quality, durability, ease of maintenance and energy efficiency rating of the AC units that were installed during the sound insulation pilot program and asked staff to locate one or more experts to come to the next meeting to further discuss that issue. Staff has made the County aware of the board's desire for high SEER ratings on all air conditioning units. Staff is working now to identify one or more experts to present to the board's next meeting. Additional recommendations arising from that presentation, if any, will be forwarded to the City Commission as appropriate.

3. The board recommended that a City Commissioner attend the next available Airport Noise Abatement Committee meeting to discuss the issue of helicopter over flights.

The board further recommended that City send a letter to the County Commission requesting that it reduce helicopter over flights, especially over Melaleuca Gardens.

Members of the board complained that helicopters have been regularly flying over and hovering over residential neighborhoods recently. This has especially been true in the Melaleuca Gardens neighborhood. Staff has prepared a draft letter to Mayor Rodstrom requesting a reduction of helicopter flights over residential neighborhoods. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Airport Noise Abatement Committee is March 12, 2012.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation no. 1: Approve

Recommendation no. 2: No action until the Airport Advisory Board has completed its discussion of air conditioning issues.

Recommendation no. 3: Approve