

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT

CITY OF SACRAMENTO  
CALIFORNIA

1030 15<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
SUITE 250  
SACRAMENTO, CA  
95814-4009

PH 916-264-7223  
FAX 916-264-8161

November 22, 1999

City Council  
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SACRAMENTO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT'S DESIGNATION AS "PORT OF ENTRY" AND LOCATION OF CUSTOMS, IMMIGRATION AND AGRICULTURAL SERVICES AND FACILITIES**

**LOCATION/COUNCIL DISTRICT:** Citywide

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends adoption of the attached resolution supporting the designation of Sacramento International Airport as a "Port of Entry" and the locating of customs, immigration and agricultural services and facilities, and urging the City of Sacramento congressional representatives to take all the necessary and appropriate measures to secure such designation.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Kristan Otto, Economic Development Manager, 264-7948  
Andrew J. Plescia, Economic Development Director, 264-1987

**FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF:** December 7, 1999

**SUMMARY:**

This report requests City Council's support in designating Sacramento International Airport as a "Port of Entry", locating customs, immigration and agricultural services and facilities at the airport, and urging the City's congressional representatives to take all the necessary and appropriate measures to secure such designation.

**COMMITTEE / COMMISSION ACTION:**

None

**BACKGROUND:**

The Sacramento County Department of Airports has been aggressively pursuing inauguration of international flights from Sacramento International Airport prior to designation of Sacramento Metropolitan Airport to Sacramento International Airport in 1996. There is now non-stop direct flight service to Washington, D.C. and anticipation of non-stop flight service to Mexico and possibly Canada.

At this time there are two major air carriers considering initiating flight service between Sacramento and Mexico. However, there is currently an absence of necessary customs, immigration and agricultural services and facilities to accommodate such international flight service. It is critical that Sacramento International Airport achieve status as a "Port of Entry" in the immediate future which provides for the required customs, immigration and agricultural services and facilities to accommodate international flight service. Toward that end, the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors recently engaged a consultant to assist in securing the "Port of Entry" designation for Sacramento International Airport, and participate in negotiations with foreign air carriers in regard to international flight service from Sacramento International Airport.

Sacramento area congressional representatives recently expressed interest in the status of the efforts to secure the "Port of Entry" designation. At this point in the process, it is important that the assistance of our congressional delegation be enlisted for the effort to secure the "Port of Entry" designation. This designation and the related services and facilities would be applicable to Mather Airport also, in order to accommodate the need for clearance of international cargo. The lack of such services and facilities at Mather Airport has resulted in the need to secure assistance from San Francisco International Airport. Upon adoption of the attached resolution, staff will forward a copy to each member of the Sacramento area congressional delegation and provide an update on the status of the subject effort.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

The recommended action does not have a direct or indirect financial effect on the City of Sacramento in terms of operating costs or expenses.

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

The recommended action is not a project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and therefore does not require environmental review

**POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:**

The recommended action is consistent with previous City Council policy directions in regard to enhancing the position of the Sacramento region to effectively compete for attraction of new business and commercial development and activities by building on the region's assets.

**ESBD CONSIDERATIONS:**

The recommended action does not require the securing of goods and supplies.

Respectfully Submitted,


APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kristan Otto  
Economic Development Manager

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew J. Plescia  
Economic Development Director

RECOMMENDATION APPROVED:

APPROVED:

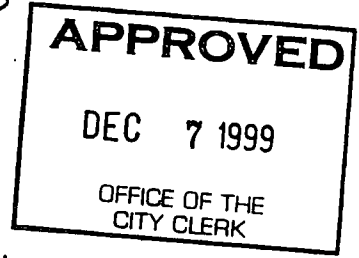
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ROBERT P. THOMAS  
City Manager

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas V. Lee  
Deputy City Manager

**RESOLUTION NO. 99-713**

ADOPTED BY THE SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL

ON DATE OF \_\_\_\_\_



**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR DESIGNATION  
OF SACRAMENTO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AS  
A PORT OF ENTRY**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO:

WHEREAS, Sacramento International Airport is a major air carrier facility which served over 7.3 million passengers in Fiscal Year 1998; and

WHEREAS, Sacramento International Airport has over one hundred thirty daily domestic flights, but no international flights; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sacramento is desirous of establishing air service between Sacramento and Canada and Mexico; and

WHEREAS, Mexicana Airlines has expressed a strong interest in serving the Sacramento region with nonstop service to Mexico; and

WHEREAS, nonstop service between Sacramento and Mexico or Canada will require customs, immigration and agricultural facilities to be located at Sacramento International; and

WHEREAS, neither Sacramento International Airport (SMF) nor Mather Airport (MHR) presently is designated as a Port of Entry for purposes of the U.S. Customs, U.S. Immigration and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Services; and

WHEREAS, Sacramento International Airport does not house the necessary customs, immigration and agricultural facilities necessary to accommodate nonstop international flights.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Sacramento, strongly urges its congressional representatives to take whatever measures appropriate and necessary to facilitate the designation of Sacramento

**FOR CITY CLERK USE ONLY**

RESOLUTION NO: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_

International Airport and Mather Airport as a Port of Entry, and pursue the locating of customs, immigration and agricultural services at Sacramento International Airport.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK

.....  
**FOR CITY CLERK USE ONLY**

RESOLUTION NO: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_