

TRUCKEE TAHOE AIRPORT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Topic: Soar Truckee Lease Extension

Purpose	Information:	Guidance:	Decision: X
Recommendation	Approve a one-year extension to current Soar Truckee Lease as per attached Lease Extension Agreement.		
Last Action	The Board approved the current lease in April 2008. At the January 26, 2012 Board meeting, issues related to tow plane equipage and operations were discussed. At the February 23, 2012 Board meeting potential renewal and extension options were discussed. Soar Truckee was present and reported on their efforts to work with ACAT and staff to address operational issues and annoyance mitigation.		
Discussion	<p>Staff recommends a one-year extension of the existing lease. Soar Truckee has outlined their plans to reinstall the Hoffman four bladed propeller (see attached letter). Additionally, Soar Truckee plans to study flights paths to minimize impacts on the community.</p> <p>Soar Truckee and ACAT plan to meet regularly through the summer to jointly work on community annoyance mitigation and other initiatives. ACAT along with Staff and Soar Truckee will be observing operations with the 4 blade prop in an attempt to fully understand operational issues related to the prop.</p> <p>Staff is currently working with Soar Truckee to understand the benefits and effects of installing a new higher horse power engine on one of the tow planes. There are a multitude of issues with doing such that we are still investigating. The approximate cost for a retrofit from the current 235 HP engine to a 260 HP or 285 HP engine is \$25,000 to \$30,000. This could still be completed in time for this season. The principle benefits of the retrofit are potential performance increases with the 4 blade prop and the ability to climb faster to altitude over the airport and north east of the airport before gliders are released. More horse power typically adds a measure of safety also. Richard Pearl with Soar Truckee along with staff will be prepared to discuss this in more detail at the meeting.</p>		
Fiscal Impact	The 2012 lease rate will be set according to terms outlined in the lease.		
Communication Strategy	<p>Open dialogue between Soar Truckee, Staff, and ACAT will be very important this summer as new procedures are attempted. ACAT will regularly report to the Board regarding progress this summer on some of these new initiatives.</p> <p>The north east corner of the airport along with the airspace used by Soar Truckee will be a topic of consideration and discussion as part of the Master Plan update.</p>		

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Attachments	Current Soar Truckee Lease. Lease Extension Agreement Letter from Soar Truckee
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