



Airport prepares to buy homes for runway extension

By Nichole Hacha-Thomas nthomas@kpcnews.net
Thursday, August 25, 2011, 12:00am

AUBURN — The DeKalb County Airport Authority approved a motion Friday to spend no more \$11,000 on appraisals for the future purchase of two homes on C.R. 31.

The airport currently owns seven homes surrounding its perimeter, bought as part of a runway extension project. At least six additional homes — including the two being appraised — will need to be secured in the future to enable the airport to extend its runway to 7,000 feet.

Airport manager Russ Couchman said the appraisals are a formality, required by the Federal Aviation Administration to ensure the homeowners are given fair deals. The process could take up to four months to complete.

"These (appraisals) are different from your average home appraisal," Couchman said. "We have to follow the FAA rules, which include all types of safeguards to make sure we don't sell anyone short."

The appraisals, and subsequent home purchases, eventually could be reimbursed by the FAA in the form of an annual \$150,000 grant, he said. The FAA grants are still an uncertainty, though, due to a recent FAA shutdown.

Even with the FAA dragging its heels, Couchman said the appraisals are valid for 12 months and funds could be available in the airport's 2012 budget.

"We are currently waiting on the County Council to approve our line-item budget and issue their binding review (in September)," he said.

The 2012 budget, if approved, could earmark up to \$391,500 — in three separate funds — to provide money for home purchases.

Local resident Doug Trovinger, whose home is one of the six to be purchased, attended the meeting and said he hopes attend future meetings on behalf of the C.R. 31 residents. He said they are anxious about the project and want to remain updated on the process.

"There is a lot of angst and concern," Trovinger said, "but I felt (this meeting) was very informative. Questions were answered honestly and straightforwardly, and (the board) seemed to be open to suggestions."

Couchman said the airport authority board is committed to working with the residents to make the home-buying process as easy as possible.

"We hope they know that we will do whatever it takes to make sure they are well-taken care of," Couchman said.

Recommend

Send

Add comment

Hi 135769,

Log out

IQMeats
Your Smart Choice

6188 CR 36 • Butler

868-1370

We accept EBT cards

VISA MasterCard DISCOVER

Holiday Gift Guide

Letters to Santa

Let Santa know what you want in your stocking this year. [Click here.](#)

STAY CONNECTED

Facebook

Today's

Print

Twitter

Editions

RSS

KPC Yellow
Pages

Top Ads

- Hamilton House
- Hamilton Village Foods Special
- Martin's Tavern
- Northway Inn Diner
- Auburn American Legion
- Doc's Hardware - \$2 Off Coupon
- Albright's Supermarket

[View All Listings](#)

Top Jobs

- Journal Gazette Routes Available
- General Labor Position
- Chief of Police - Garrett, IN
- Water/Wastewater Operator
- Assistant General Manager

1000 symbols left

Notify me of follow-up comments

Send

JComments

- Certified Medical Biller
- Machinist

[View All Listings](#)

Top Realtors

- Action Realty
- RE/MAX Results - Wolcottville
- Orizon Real Estate, Inc.
- RE/MAX Results - Angola
- Coldwell Banker Roth Wehrly Graber
- Real Living Homes and Beyond
- Homestead Acres, Inc.
- Wible Realty
- Anchor Realty
- Mike Thomas Associates Realtors

[View All Listings](#)

WEATHER 10-Day Forecast | Radar

21°

Clear

°F

Humidity: 86%

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
38 25	41 34	43 40	49 29

VIDEO

[More](#)



[A new Westview team faced off against NorthWood in high school boys basketball](#)



[The Ryan Park Elementary School functional skills class put on its 10th annual](#)

Save 20% - 70%
Every day in stores
like Coach, Tommy Hilfiger,
Bass, Carters, Levi's and more!

The Outlet
Shoppes at Fremont

www.TheOutletShoppesatFremont.com

FENCE POST

[More](#)

- Section 1603 Grants
- My Occupy LA Arrest, by Patrick Meighan
- Music
- Racing Legend Joy Fair Dies
- NASCAR Champion Tony Stewart to Race...

- Blues Thread
- Angola Mother abandons 4 children?

POLL

Who will you vote for for president in 2012?

- Obama
- Romney
- Gingrich
- someone else or won't vote

Vote

STRANGE NEWS

- Police: Pa. man fakes mom's obit to get...
- Police: 2 Fla. women stole Christmas...
- Pa. ad executive sends holiday cards...
- Cat's 26 toes help boost Milwaukee...
- Maine soda-and-candy-powered car...

ADVERTISEMENT

News

- Local News
- My Community
- Police Blotter
- Obituaries
- Business
- Weather
- Jokes

- Life
- Opinion
- Births
- Weddings/Anniversaries
- Columnists
- Features

Sports

- Local Sports
- The Outdoor Page
- The Big Ticket
- KPC Triathlon

Marketplace

- Classifieds
- Jobs
- Autos
- Coupons
- KPC Store

More Info

- Advertising
- Subscribe
- Contact Us
- Customer Service
- e-Editions
- Commercial Printing
- Photo Reprints

- KPC Web Design
- KPC Mail Connection
- e-Alerts
- Webcams
- Photos
- Video