

Airport to receive grant to help extend taxiway

08:41 AM CDT on Tuesday, June 30, 2009

The Denton Airport will receive a \$1.8 million grant to help extend a taxiway, the Texas Department of Transportation announced Monday.

The grant will fund 95 percent of the construction phase of the taxiway project, which will open 34 new hangar spaces for development on the airport's southeast side, said Quentin Hix, the city's airport manager. The City Council approved the city's share of the project -- \$90,000 -- earlier this month as part of a package of airport improvements funded by revenue from gas wells on airport property.

The state transportation department's aviation division is administering the grant for the Federal Aviation Administration, Hix said. The state department expects to provide roughly \$60 million this year for planning, construction and maintenance at community airports across Texas, according to a news release.

The Denton project also will include utility extensions and improvements, Hix said. The state plans to award a construction contract this fall.

-- Lowell Brown