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HAILEY ANNOUNCES ITS FRIEDMAN MEMORIAL AIRPORT SITE MASTER PLANNING TIMELINE

(Hailey, Idaho) –Hailey Mayor Rick Davis announced this month its timeline for master planning the site upon which the current Friedman Memorial Airport runway and facilities now operate. This master planning effort is designed to integrate with the timing and results of other significant planning efforts currently underway.

The Friedman Memorial Airport Authority began its second phase of its replacement airport site selection and feasibility study. During this second phase, the FMAA consultant Landrum and Brown will conduct a conceptual land use plan of the Hailey site as it could be used when no longer an airport. The consultant began work with Hailey city planning staff this week to create a conceptual plan to identify land uses appropriate to the area.

A second project currently under way, the Sustain Blaine Economic Study, has indicated that it too will touch upon the economic and fiscal opportunities related to the vacated airport site, including discussion of how that site can be useful in expanding and diversifying the economic opportunities for the Wood River Valley.

Hailey city officials anticipate their master planning timeline to extend over the next 18 months. The timeline will involve city council discussions and assessment of the Sustain Blaine Economic Study recommendations next spring as well as the Landrum and Brown airport consultant's conceptual plan results next summer. The Hailey City Council will then engage its citizens in a year-long process following those studies, utilizing community visioning and applying the Hailey Comprehensive Plan to the consideration of appropriate zoning and uses of the property.

This projected timeline follows upon two years of work already directed toward this effort. In May of 2006 a study entitled "After-The-Airport" Planning Project was conducted for the City of Hailey by Haavik Consulting. Page 1 of that report discusses its purpose which was to "begin the process of planning for the property currently occupied by the Friedman Memorial Airport." Approximately a year later, Hailey Planning Director Beth Robrahn began research into the development of a conceptual master plan for the property, and reviewed the Haavik report. In August of 2008, Robrahn reported to Mayor Davis that the Haavik report outlines a process for moving forward with the planning which entails potential specific comprehensive plan and land use amendments, as well as zoning text and map amendments to reflect and ensure the planned outcomes of the future development of the property.

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