



## Camarillo Airport to get \$1.5 million in stimulus funds

By Marjorie Hernandez  
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Camarillo Airport could see improvements on its grounds as early as this summer once it receives its cut of the \$1.1 billion in federal stimulus money.

Camarillo, which has been awarded \$1.5 million, is one of 3,400 airports nationwide that received funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

President Barack Obama signed the \$787 billion measure into law in February.

"This administration is committed to getting the U.S. economy going again and these grants are a part of making that happen," said U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood in a news release. "This grant represents a critical investment in our nation's airport infrastructure that will boost the local economy by providing jobs for the area."

The Federal Aviation Administration allocated funding to states based on a priority system that addresses safety and security, infrastructure, runway safety, increased capacity and environmental impacts, according to U.S. Department of Transportation officials.

Fourteen airports in California received anywhere from \$600,000 to \$8 million, including Camarillo, the Bob Hope Airport in Burbank, the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority and the Compton/Wooley Airport.

Funding awarded to Camarillo Airport will go toward repaving two taxiways, said Todd McNamee, Ventura County Department of Airports director.

"We have two ramp areas that need attention where the asphalt is breaking and disintegrating," McNamee said. "It's just really old pavement."

McNamee said the county Board of Supervisors would have to authorize receiving the grant. He plans to appear before the board on April 28.

Federal grants from the FAA usually require a 2.5 percent match from both the county Department of Airports and the Caltrans Division of Aeronautics in order for to receive the full funding.

However, 100 percent of this \$1.5 million grant will come from the FAA, McNamee said.

"We hope to accept the grant sometime in June and then get started on the project soon after that," McNamee said.



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