



WILLIS THOMPSON
MAYOR

December 24, 2025

Mr. Will Schuller, Acting Manager
Jackson Airports District Office
Federal Aviation Administration
10 Canebrake Blvd., Suite 100
Jackson, Mississippi 39232

Dear Mr. Schuller:

The purpose of this letter is to initiate the process of decommissioning the Vicksburg Municipal Airport (VKS). It is the intention of the City of Vicksburg to formally request that the airport be removed from the NPIAS, be released from all federal obligations and land use requirements, and then subsequently close the airport and sell the property for industrial development. The City of Vicksburg intends to meet all requirements throughout this process and fully support the request by submitting the following:

- A complete description of the airport sponsor's federal obligations from AIP, FAAP, and ADAP grant agreements and FAA grant history.
- Exhibit A Land ownership map with supporting deeds to include surplus property agreements, and any land acquisition grant agreements.
- A complete description of all terms, conditions, and federal obligations that may need to be modified in order to achieve the result requested by the sponsor.
- The sponsor's justification for release, modification, reformation, or amendment. This will include the previous removal from the NPIAS and limited re-entry, a listing of services and amenities at nearby airports showing that the aeronautical needs of the community can be met nearby, and the surrounding airspace and maintenance issues of VKS.
- An additional letter of concurrence from the State DOT official with support from the most recently approved State System Plan Report.

CITY OF VICKSBURG • OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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- An additional letter from the sponsor's attorney with a legal opinion that the requestor (Mayor) is duly authorized to make this request. This may require the Board of Mayor and Aldermen's approval. This should also include a statement that there is no state law this action would violate.
- An amortization schedule of all unamortized grants and a plan to repay the federal government by reinvesting airport revenue for Vicksburg Tallulah Regional Airport (VTR), a co-sponsored airport of the City of Vicksburg
- An appraisal of the airport by an FAA approved appraiser who meets USPAP standards and a review appraisal to determine Fair Market Value.
- NEPA review which meets FAA order 1050.1G
- Draft 7480 - Notice of deactivation

Additionally, the City of Vicksburg is prepared to provide any additional data, documentation, and coordination that should arise as a result of the FAA Evaluation and Review Process for Sponsor Requests. We intend to address the pertinent factors that drive the review process which include, but is not limited to:

- Ways in which the Sponsor is federally obligated, both in its operations and its property; including specific federal agreements and use obligations.
- The Sponsor's past and present compliance record under all its airport agreements and its actions to make available a safe and usable airport for aeronautical use by the public.
- The reasonableness and practicality of the sponsor's request in light of maintaining necessary aeronautical facilities and the priority of the airport in the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS).
- The net benefit to be derived by civil aviation and the compatibility of the proposal with the needs of civil aviation, including the balance of benefits to aeronautical users relative to the public at large.

Finally, the City of Vicksburg is prepared to follow protocol for procedures regarding public notice for a change in use of aeronautical property. Upon completion of FAA Action to the City of Vicksburg's request, we are prepared to coordinate with the FAA if special conditions, qualifications, or restrictions apply to the approval. If the FAA does approve the requests of the City of Vicksburg and prepares a deed of release removing all legal encumbrances to airport property, we are prepared to provide the ADO or regional airports division with any acknowledgment or copies of executed instruments or documents as required for FAA record purposes including, but not limited to, all content of release documentation.

Prior to submission of our release request packet at the end of January, we are respectfully requesting a meeting with your office, FAA Southern Region Compliance Specialist, and others as-

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needed within FAA office of Airport Compliance and Management Analysis in headquarters to ensure a full and complete submission for your review and consideration.

We look forward to working with you through this process and appreciate all of your hard work, effort, and dedication to the City of Vicksburg, the state of Mississippi, and the region to advance a safe and efficient aerospace system.

Sincerely,

Willis Thompson,
Mayor of The City of Vicksburg, MS

CC:

Thomas TJ Mayfield, Alderman, City of Vicksburg
Vickie Y. Bailey, Alderwoman, City of Vicksburg
Kimberly Walker Nailor, City Attorney, City of Vicksburg
Josh Stubbs, Aeronautics Director, MDOT