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NEARLY $2 MILLION IN BIDS RECEIVED ON AIRPORT BUYOUT PROPERTY

Kenner, LA. – Officials received bids on 20 of 31 bundles of vacant property surrounding Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport at an auction held last week at City Hall in New Orleans.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) authorized the purchase of a number of properties near the airport after noise studies indicated the locations were not suitable for residential zoning. The winning bids from the auction totaled nearly $2 million.

Development of the 20 bundles means economic development for the city of Kenner, as some of the purchases were made by new businesses while others were by existing Kenner companies who wished to expand, according to the Jefferson Parish Economic Development Commission (JEDCO).

“JEDCO has eagerly anticipated the return of these long-vacant parcels to commerce as this presents a great economic development opportunity for the City of Kenner,” said Jerry Bologna, JEDCO’s Executive Director. “We look forward to working with the successful auction winners on the appropriate development of their properties.”

Minimum bids, between $11,000 and $309,000, were set for all of the properties, which were put into bundles to form larger and more attractive tracts of land for prospective businesses. In all, there were 17 bidders. Ten bundles did not attract a bid and another will be included in a subsequent auction. Officials with the New Orleans Aviation Board, which conducted the auction in conjunction with the City of New Orleans, will auction the remaining properties at a later date.

Kenner Acting Mayor Michael Sigur, who also is the 2nd District councilman, where a number of the properties are located, said City officials hope the auction and any future developments will lead to significant economic development.

“We are quite aware of the impact new development can have on existing businesses and residents, and we are committed to making sure developers follow all city code and zoning regulations.”

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