

City Orders Site Surveys For Airports

Surveys to determine the prospective locations of from one to three master airports with runways 15,000 feet long and vast hangar and freight terminal facilities were ordered by City Councilmen Wednesday, almost coincidentally with land purchases to expand Love Field.

City Manager V. R. Smitham also was asked to have studies made at once on improving trafficways between Love Field and the downtown district, including improvements on Lemmon Avenue and better connections with Hines Boulevard and other routes designed to make the airport even more useful.

These actions were taken as Councilmen delayed decision on the proposal to give Dallas a better break on the location of the Midway Airport administration building. And they were construed by some as meaning that municipal officials still remain cool to the prospects of using the Tarrant County field to serve Dallas' needs in the future.

A formal decision on the stand to be taken on the Midway Airport proposal made by Secretary of Commerce Jesse Jones will not be reached until after next Tuesday, Mayor Woodall Rodgers said.

"We do not care to make any decision until we can have a meeting with the Master Aviation Committee," Mayor Rodgers said. Chairman Nathan Adams will be out of town until Tuesday.

Payment for Site Studied.

Officials indicated they would go into the question with an open mind despite their previous hands-off attitude. After a lengthy executive session Wednesday, however, one Councilman said he considered the attitude to be one of coolness toward the project.

A contract was approved Wednesday to pay Rollins & Forrest, consulting engineers, \$6,000 for studies on the desirability of three major sites for a master airport. After

these studies one main site may be selected for development or officials may decide to plan for two or all three.

Sites listed for study are in this order:

Industrial district site, north and east of the Trinity River in the vicinity of Brook Hollow Golf Club, where one block of 1,500 acres already has been tendered and more is available.

A site north and east of Buckner Orphans Home.

Lake June site, southeast of Dallas, east of Prairie Creek between U. S. 75 and Bruton Road.

All are within ten miles of Dallas.

Requirements of Sites.

Minimum qualifications will be space for two parallel runways in each of four directions. Primary runways are to be 200 feet wide and secondary 150 feet. Land also must be available to allow extension of the northwest-southeast and north-south strips from 10,000 feet to 15,000 feet whenever needs demand it.

Space it to be designed for an airport terminal, hangars space of 8,000,000 cubic feet with provision for doubling it, terminal and warehouse space for freight, mail and express of 600,000 cubic feet, and provision for parking space to handle from 500 to 1,000 automobiles.

During their meeting Councilmen also spent \$8,500 purchasing additional property needed for expanding Love Field and lengthening runways. More land will be acquired to improve the municipal airport later.