

First look: Airport to bid out new facility construction in January

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See Correction/Clarification at end of article

Come early January, Memphis International Airport will bid out a \$35 million construction project.

The **Memphis-Shelby County Airport Authority (MSCAA)** ended its lease with the U.S. Post Office on Louis Carruthers in April, ending decades of extended service hours for the Memphis area. Later that same month, the MSCAA demolished the nearby Gate Gourmet building, once the hub for a catering company that provided in-flight meals and snacks for Delta Air Lines.

Now, the MSCAA has revealed what it was making way for: a \$35 million Airfield Maintenance & Operations Support Facility.

In a \$35 million building permit filed Dec. 7, the project is described as a 121,700-square-foot building surrounded by support structures.

The maintenance and operations facility will be located on the site of the former Gate Gourmet building at 4150 Louis Carruthers Dr. The vacated post office building will be used as a staging space for various contracts over the next few



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Memphis International Airport's new \$35 million Airfield Maintenance & Operations Support Facility will be put out for construction bids in early January 2018.

years, said Glen Thomas, MSCAA director of strategic marketing and communications.

The building was designed by HST, a joint venture between Midtown-based Horrell Group Architects and local, minority-owned firm **Self Tucker Architects**.

In June 2016, the MSCAA board approved a \$1.8 million design contract with the two firms.

The facilities will include office areas, meeting rooms, storage areas, a break room with a commercial kitchen, warehouse space, bunk rooms, restrooms, vehicle maintenance bays, wash bays, a paint booth, paint storage, tire storage, an electrical shop, a sign shop, a fueling island, glycol storage and covered equipment storage, according to the MSCAA.

Engineers on the project include the Pickering Firm Inc., Jamnu H. Tahiliani and Associates, DePouw Engineering, BCM - Barham/Cain/Mynatt and the Faith Group LLC.

Correction/Clarification

A previous version of this article said the airport would break ground on the facility next month. It also said the project was part of the airport's overall modernization. Neither of those statements are the case.

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