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Fast Food At Lindbergh——

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lounges, snack bars and other dry goods outlets.

Port Chairman Mel Portwood said he had mixed emotions about Host's proposal and wanted more information concerning earlier approved plans to upgrade the airport. An architectural design study for the upgrading is now under way and should be considered before any decision on the Host proposal is made, Portwood said.

Port Commissioner Clifford Graves had stronger opinions on what Host was asking. He said Host's using of DBEs "as a lever to get another 10 years" on its contract bothered him.

In a related issue, Host workers and their union representatives asked the port to exert pressure on Host to adhere to its contract and pay its employees the prevailing wages. However, under the terms of the contract no definition exists for what a prevailing wage is. Representatives from the Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union said the average wage earned by Host employees was $5.49 per hour, below the federal poverty level, and lower than what was paid to workers in three other West Coast airports with which it has contracts.

Lindstrom said Host pays the prevailing wage and used local restaurants in determining what that figure should be.

On a motion by Commissioner Lynn Schenk, the commission unanimously endorsed its previous policy of having the tenant pay its employees the prevailing wage.

10-Year Lease Extension Sought

Minority-Run Fast Food Sites Proposed For Lindbergh Field

By MIKE ALLEN
San Diego Daily Transcript Staff Writer

Lindbergh Field may take on the look of a fast-food section of a shopping mall under a plan submitted by the airport's sole concessionaire.

In an effort to win an extension and expand on its present contract with the San Diego Unified Port District, Host International Inc. is proposing a program of "branding," or subcontracting with nationally franchised restaurants such as Pizza Hut, Burger King and Taco Bell.

Host made its pitch for the airport makeover by saying the new franchises would all be designated as minority-owned businesses, something which the Port Commission said it intends to increase.

The commission made no decision on the proposal at its meeting yesterday except to refer it to its staff and request additional time for commissioners and local minority representatives to consider it.

Gary Lindstrom, spokesman for the Marriott Corp. — Host's parent company — said under the proposal about $6.7 million would be spent on improvements to the food and beverage and merchandise concession stands at Lindbergh Field. Some $4.5 million would be invested by Host, while the disadvantaged business enterprises chosen to occupy the new facilities would invest the remaining amount.

Lindstrom said the proposal involves turning over six food and beverage stands and four merchandise and souvenir stands to minority owners. The stands are expected to generate an estimated $6.5 million or 28 percent of Host's gross sales, Lindstrom said.

Currently, Host subcontracts with only one disadvantaged business, a shoeshine stand operated by a black man. A Federal Aviation Administration audit of Lindbergh Field in 1988 suggested the port increase its disadvantaged business participation to at least 10 percent of its gross sales.

In return for increasing the airport DBE program, Host asked for a 10-year extension of its lease and an addition of 6,210 square feet in the terminal area controlled by Host. The port's current contract with Host expires in 1994.

Among the franchised chains with which Host had already begun negotiating are Carl's Jr., Pizza Hut, Burger King, Taco Bell, Mrs. Field's Cookies, Dunkin Donuts and TCBY Yogurt. The Host proposal also included the addition of a new souvenir and gift shop, the renovation of several cocktail

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