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Indy airport to use \$1.3M on long-term master plan

By Bruce C. Smith

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The Indianapolis Airport Authority today approved a contract totaling \$1.3 million to a land **planning** and consulting team headed by Cincinnati-based Landrum and Brown.

That team will **study** and prepare detailed reports affecting thousands of acres and the old, abandoned terminal building at Indianapolis International Airport.

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The board postponed a plan to spend up to \$300,000 on an extensive plan of public meetings and other communications.

The study of how to reuse the old

terminal property and maximize the use and revenues from other land around the airport is to be done by the end of this year. The board committed \$1.3 million and could spend up a total of \$2 million if needed.

Airport officials are looking for ways to boost revenues and income to the airport authority's budget other than adding **more** fees on airlines and passengers. The airport authority is a municipal entity but it does not use property tax revenues.

The last time the airport board undertook such an extensive, exhaustive and far-reaching approach to a master plan was three decades ago.

One of the results of that project was the concept of a new passenger terminal to be located in the middle of the airfield's two main runways. Concept became reality 15 months ago, with the opening of \$1 billion of improvements including the new Col. H. Weir Cook Terminal.

With the key parts of that plan substantially done, airport officials said it is time to look again to the future with master plans that could take decades to **evolve**. This plan could affect thousands

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of acres of land owned by the authority or affected by the airport as a regional economic development engine.

Kasarda has studied other airports and envisioned economic development, new businesses and jobs created 20 miles or more from those air transportation centers.

The airport board owns about 8,000 acres on and around the Indianapolis International Airport, plus five suburban reliever airports and the Downtown Heliport.

Call Star reporter Bruce C. Smith at (317) 444-6081.

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The advertisement features the USA TODAY logo at the top left, followed by the word "AutoPilot" in a large, bold, black font. To the right of "AutoPilot" is a blue airplane icon. Below the title is a smartphone displaying the app's interface, which includes a "USA TODAY Meeting" section for Sep 21, 2009, and a flight status section for "A6 BNA to IAD Landed" on 09/21/2009 at 11:48 AM. The weather for Washington (IAD) is shown as "Partly Cloudy" with a temperature of 73°. Below the weather is a link to "View a Flickr gallery of Washington" and a link to "Articles - Hotel Check-in Hilton Hotels plucks". To the right of the smartphone, the text reads "The new travel app for iPhone® and iPod touch®". Below this is the "Presented by:" logo for Hampton, which is a blue shield with a white anchor and the word "Hampton" in a script font. At the bottom right of the advertisement is a blue button with the text "SEE HOW IT WORKS »".

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