



## Division of Finance &amp; Management

Office of Air, Rail & Transit  
700 East Broadway Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501  
O: 605.773-3574 | dot.sd.gov

**TO:** South Dakota Aeronautics Commission  
**FROM:** Jack Dokken, Office of Aeronautics  
**DATE:** September 18, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** Airport Weather Camera Request

Over the past several months, discussions have focused on the installation of aviation weather cameras at airports across South Dakota. The Spearfish Airport has now completed its installation, and the cameras will be going online very soon. The City of Spearfish is requesting state reimbursement for its camera system. 75% of the total \$14,412.94 is \$10,809.71.

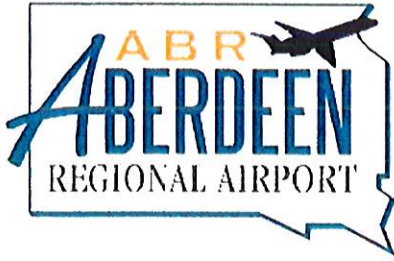
In addition, several other airports have expressed interest in installing weather cameras. These airports—Aberdeen, Gregory, Sisseton, Wagner, Watertown, and Yankton—have indicated a willingness to pay the contractor directly and then seek reimbursement of 75% of the costs through state funds. The remaining 25% would be covered by the airports using individual tax revenues or other local shares, whichever each airport deems appropriate.

Based on the installer's estimate of \$12,500 to \$13,500 per airport installation, the anticipated costs are as follows:

- Six additional airports (Aberdeen, Gregory, Sisseton, Wagner, Watertown, Yankton): \$75,000 – \$81,000 total
- Total for all seven airports including Spearfish: \$87,500 – \$94,500

Of this amount, the state reimbursement obligation at 75% would range from approximately \$65,625 to \$70,875, with the remaining \$21,875 to \$23,625 to be covered locally.

Consideration and direction from the Aeronautics Commission are requested regarding reimbursement for the completed Spearfish system, as well as authorization for reimbursement participation for the additional airports listed above and authorization for the airports to utilize their tax revenue funds or other local shares for the remaining 25% match.



## ABERDEEN REGIONAL AIRPORT

123 SOUTH LINCOLN STREET  
ABERDEEN SOUTH DAKOTA 57401

PHONE: (605) 626-7020  
[www.aberdeen.sd.us](http://www.aberdeen.sd.us)

August 11, 2025

South Dakota Aeronautics Commission  
Becker-Hansen Building  
700 E. Broadway Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

Re: Aviation Weather Camera System

Greeting Commissioners,

Regarding the recent discussions involving the Aviation Weather Camera Systems, Aberdeen Regional Airport is interested in participating in the acquisition of said cameras. I understand that the entire system is eligible for purchase utilizing the Fuel Flowage Tax Fund. I also understand that 75% will be reimbursed to the Fund. The Airport is responsible for 25%.

Thank you.

Rich Krokell  
Transportation Director  
Aberdeen Regional Airport  
City of Aberdeen SD

# CITY OF GREGORY

Al Cerny  
Mayor  
(605) 835-8270 Ext. #1

Box 436  
GREGORY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57533  
Phone (605) 835-8270

Trudy Waterman  
Finance Officer  
(605) 835-8270 Ext. #3

---

August 11, 2025

Aeronautics Commission  
Pierre, SD 57501

RE: Airport Weather Cam Installation

Good morning,

The Gregory Municipal Airport (9D1) would like to request the installation of a Weather Cam to assist pilots stationed, passing through, and especially providing emergency transport, in and out of our airport.

The certified AWOS system installation at Gregory Airport remains 2-3 years out and the camera would provide a more reliable tool for pilots to use with our non-certified AWOS.

The Gregory City Council voted 6-0 to approve the Weather Cam project in the approximate amount of \$13,000, with the Aeronautics Commission reimbursing the city for 75% of the cost.

We appreciate the opportunity for this improvement to our airport and our goal of safety for all our airport users.



Al Cerny  
Mayor  
City of Gregory, SD

**CITY OF SISSETON**  
**406 2<sup>ND</sup> AVE. WEST**  
**SISSETON, SD 57262**  
**PHONE: (605) 698-3391 – FAX (605) 698-3271**

---

August 22, 2025

SD Aeronautics Commission,

The City of Sisseton is interested in participating with the State of SD to install weather cameras at the Sisseton Municipal Airport. We understand that the City of Sisseton will be responsible for 25% of the cost to install the cameras. The City is willing to pay the full cost to install the cameras and will submit the proper documentation required to be reimbursed for 75% of the cost. Thank you for considering us for this program.

Sincerely,

  
Amber Kemnitz  
Finance Officer

Channing Wagner  
Airport Manager – Black Hills Airport  
605.642.4112

South Dakota Aeronautics Commission  
Becker-Hansen Building  
700 E. Broadway Ave.  
Pierre, SD 57501

**Subject: Request for Airport Weather Camera System Funding**

Dear South Dakota Aeronautics Commission,

I am writing on behalf of the Black Hills Airport – Clyde Ice Field to formally request the use of our available State Aviation Fuel Tax reimbursement funds for the purchase and installation of a weather camera system at our airport.

As you know, reliable weather data is essential to the safety and efficiency of general aviation operations. The addition of a weather camera system will provide real-time visibility and cloud condition information to pilots, flight planners, and airport personnel. This capability significantly enhances flight safety, especially in our region where terrain and rapidly changing weather conditions can present serious challenges.

The South Dakota Aeronautics Commission encourages improvements that promote aviation safety, and the use of aviation fuel tax dollars for this purpose aligns perfectly with that mission. This system will benefit all airport users, including transient aircraft, charter operations, and emergency services.

We respectfully ask the Aeronautics Commission to support this initiative and release the necessary funding from the airport's available State Aviation Fuel Tax reimbursement balance to cover the cost of purchasing and installing the weather camera system.

I have attached the estimate from the contractor who is installing the weather camera system. The total cost is **\$14,412.94** and the amount responsible by the city is 25% that will come from the state's fuel tax fund that is for the Black Hills Airport. That amount is **\$3,603.24**. The aeronautics commission covers 75% of the total cost in the amount of **\$10,809.71**.

Sincerely,

Channing Wagner  
Airport Manager – Black Hills Airport  
605.642.4112





60 South Main Ave.  
P. O. Box 40  
Wagner, SD 57380

Telephone (605) 384-3741  
Fax (605) 384-5644  
Email: cywagner@hcinet.net  
website: www.cityofwagner.org

---

August 28, 2025

Jon Becker, Aeronautics Engineer  
South Dakota Department of Transportation  
700 East Broadway Ave  
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Mr. Becker,

The City of Wagner's governing board reviewed the email with regards to weather cameras at the Regular city council meeting on August 4, 2025. The City of Wagner is very excited to be selected as one of the communities which are being offered the opportunity for financial assistance with regards to adding the weather cameras to our Municipal Airport. After reviewing the email a motion was made and passed with a unanimous vote to approve the weather camera project. Please let me know what the next step is to get this project moving forward. Thank you for choosing Wagner as one of your partners in this project.

Sincerely,

Debbra J. Houseman,

City Administrator/Finance Officer



Dear Aeronautics Commission,

The City of Yankton would like to request that weather cameras be installed at Chan Gurney Municipal Airport, and that the commission reimburse 75% of the cost. I would also like to request that the city use its available fuel tax money to pay our share.

Thanks,

Mike Roinstad

Airport Supervisor

416 Walnut St  
PO Box 176  
Yankton, SD 57078-0176  
Phone (605) 668-5251  
[www.cityofyankton.org](http://www.cityofyankton.org)

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER