

The City of St. Louis has finalized a consulting contract with 16 firms to provide financial and legal advice as it considers privatizing the St. Louis Lambert International Airport. Squire Patton Boggs has been selected as public finance counsel.

The city is evaluating the potential of leasing the airport as part of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Airport Privatization Pilot Program. The advisory team will assist the city in the evaluation process.

Launched in 1996, the FAA program allows for private operation of airports that have received federal funding. Under the program, the city would be able to lease the airport and its operations, yet retain ownership rights. If privatized, the airport would retire its US\$600 million of debt. St. Louis is the only US hub airport applying for a slot program, with two county airports in Florida and New York seeking slots.

The Squire Patton Boggs team serving as public finance counsel is led by Washington DC partner [Alethia Nancoo](#), and includes Washington DC of counsel [Tatjana Misulic](#), Houston partner [Johnny Hutchinson](#), New York of counsel [Sani Williams](#) and Miami associate [Niyala Harrison](#).

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