

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

10.1 Introduction

Public participation is an essential element in FAA *Advisory Circular 150/5070-6B – Airport Master Plans*, and is proportional to the complexity of the study. For the preparation of the Concord-Padgett Regional Airport Layout Plan, public participation was considered as part of the process because of the ongoing issues of viability of the Airport to the communities that the Airport services.

10.2 Goals of Public Involvement

It is the goal of the project team, which included FAA, NCDOT-DOA, Airport staff, and the consultant team led by Talbert, Bright & Ellington, Inc., was to inform, educate, and seek input from the public about the project. To achieve this goal, the project team:

- Created an open and objective environment to allow the public to understand the project and provide their opinions
- Integrated citizen concerns and needs into the project development process
- Educated the public on the Airport
- Invited the public to provide input on the project

10.3 Public Participation

The intent of public involvement is to encourage and facilitate public input and comments in the decision-making process of the project. The opportunities for input incorporated several methods including use of the media and stakeholder meetings.

The public was provided several opportunities to comment on the proposed projects outlined on the ALP, summaries of which are provided in the sections below.

10.3.1 Kickoff Meeting/Visioning Session – September 26, 2017

10.3.1.1 Attendees

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10.3.1.2 Agenda

1. Introductions/Opening Remarks
2. Purpose of Meeting
3. What attendees want from visioning session
4. What has Airport meant to the City of Concord and Cabarrus County over the past 23 years
5. Issues that need to be addressed
6. Future opportunities
7. What can stop the Airport
8. Final thoughts/what did you get out of the kickoff meeting/visioning session

10.3.1.3 Benefits

- Accessibility/connectivity
- Convenience
- TSA passenger efficiency
- Build tax base
- Diversity of industry
- 24/7 FBO service
- 4th largest airport in NC
- Favorable cost/benefit
- Quality of life
- NASCAR impact
- Safety (with air traffic control tower)
- Job creation/economic impact
- On-site fire and police
- Favorable demographics for flight school
- Put Concord on the map
- Favorable relative cost to operate
- Return on investment 20 times annually

10.3.1.4 Issues

- Variety of services/destinations
- General aviation access (take care of corporate/GA)
- Future ground handling
- Adequate convenient parking for GA area
- Adequate future funding
- Checkpoint redesign to include exit lane
- Expanded fire station
- Potential future conflict in air pattern – commercial versus training
- Satellite law enforcement office
- Surrounding land growth
- Entrance/entrance road and signage
- Airfield movement
- Pedestrian/aircraft conflict
- Do we have adequate runway?
- Tower is too short
- Perimeter road for quick access
- ARFF equipment – age and capacity
- Insurance liability issues increasing
- Increased support personnel
- Space for ARFF training (outdoor)

- Road circulation to and within the airport (Derita Road access question)
- Future of tower – privatization, possible loss
- Social media communication
- Appearance and welcoming image
- Communication of commercial flight scheduling
- Runway length

10.3.1.5 Opportunities

- Partnership of GA and commercial activity – optimize both
- Cargo potential
- Customer base – variety
- Communication of support services (existing and future)
- Connectivity with light rail
- Impact of future technology
- Business support potential
- Land and land use
- Related aviation business
- Larger terminal building
- Electric vehicles
- Connectivity with various forms of transit/travel

10.3.1.6 Threats

- Political
- Environmental impacts
- Public policy
- Lack of in-tune/engaged leadership
- Bad accident
- Inadequate land
- Fuel prices
- Not partnering
- Regional/national economy
- Terrorist activity
- Poor customer service
- Funding – federal, state, local
- Insufficient infrastructure
- Regulatory changes
- Lack of diversification
- Failure to solve access issue
- Incompatible land use
- Failure of advocacy
- Ego – individual bias
- Natural disaster
- Protest groups

10.3.1.7 Final Thoughts

- Thinking forward
- Perspective
- Identify concerns of each
- Meeting beneficial
- Got all three groups in a room
- Build partnerships

10.3.2 ALP Alternatives Session – March 29, 2018

10.3.2.1 Attendees

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10.3.2.2 Agenda

1. Introductions/Opening Remarks
2. Aviation Forecasts
3. Alternative Development Options review
4. Final thoughts

10.3.3.3 Comments Received

Comments received during the meeting and after are addressed throughout the document and are available for review in Appendix G (pages G-37 through G-50).