

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
Inter-Office Communication

**Date:** February 15, 2022

**To:** Marcelia Nicholson, Chairperson, County Board of Supervisors

**From:** Donna Brown-Martin, Director, Department of Transportation

**Subject:** From the Director, Department of Transportation, requesting approval to submit all necessary documentation to the Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) for its review and approval of the Airport Layout Plan in conjunction with the airport's 2040 master plan.

**File Type:** Action Report

**REQUEST**

The Department of Transportation is requesting the board authorize the Director of Transportation and the Airport Director to submit all documentation necessary to complete the Airport Layout Plan on behalf of Milwaukee County to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

**POLICY**

Board approval is required by the FAA to adopt an Airport Layout Plan (ALP) as an element of the airport's Master Plan. The approved ALP is the guiding document for the FAA to provide federal funding for eligible projects.

**BACKGROUND**

The airport master plan update was approved as a capital project in 2017 to identify the current and future needs of the airport development on airport property. The last master plan was completed in 2008 and since that time many things have changed within the industry necessitating a master plan update. The master plan is developed based on an aviation forecast that takes into account current activity and anticipated growth based on a number of market-based factors. This largely becomes the basis for funding decisions made the FAA and establishes project ranking and eligibility.

The airport, along with its consulting team, has conducted a thorough analysis of all aspects of the airport to determine current conditions and future needs. What is clear based on current aviation traffic is that the airport has an overabundance of underutilized pavement of which not all will be supported by future grant funds. Therefore, one of the first considerations that needed to be made was what pavements the airport needs to invest in and what pavements should no longer remain. Additionally, there are non-standard pavements that need to be corrected based on

recent FAA standards updates as to how runway, taxiway, and ramp pavements intersect.

Addressing what pavements would remain and what would be removed became the driver of the alternatives' analysis. Five alternatives were initially considered for review by stakeholders and members of the public. These five alternatives were also presented to the Transportation, Public Works, and Transit Committee back in 2021. With input provided by all interested parties, the airport ultimately concluded which alternative best matched the objectives of the airport in terms of current needs and future growth. That information is further provided in a presentation to the committee as attached.

**ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

3B: Enhance the County's fiscal health and sustainability

**FISCAL EFFECT**

There is no fiscal impact.

**TERMS** – N/A

**VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES**

Presented by: Brian Dranzik, Airport Director

**PREPARED BY:**

Brian Dranzik, Airport Director

**APPROVED BY:**

*Julie Esch, Deputy Director*

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Donna Brown-Martin, Director of Transportation

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Presentation, Resolution, and Fiscal Note

CC: Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Division Manager, Office of the County Clerk