

INTRODUCTION

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) established the airport master planning process to assist the nation's airports in the development of expansion plans to meet future aviation demand. The master plan serves as a development guide for the Airport to ensure that the short-term (five-year), mid-term (10-year), and long-term (20-year) needs are identified and able to be met in the future.

The goal of the master planning process is to provide general facility development guidelines that satisfy aviation demand, while remaining compatible with the environment, community development, and other transportation modes. While the master plan is tailored to meet specific needs, it also adheres to guidelines established by the FAA. Specific objectives of the master plan are to:

- Prepare a 20-year development plan that is technically correct, environmentally and financially sound, and implementable.
- Identify the overall land and facility requirements that will ensure the Airport's long-term operational viability.
- Establish a plan that is responsive to the needs of Airport customers, as well as to the concerns of the public.
- Provide an effective graphic presentation of the Airport's existing and recommended ultimate development and anticipated land uses on and adjacent to the facility.
- Assess the feasibility of the recommended development plan through a prioritized and phased schedule of recommended improvements.
- Provide concise and descriptive documentation, able to be clearly understood by the community and agencies charged with approving, promoting, and funding the recommended development plan.

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The original master plan for the Ohio State University Airport was developed in 1959, with updates in 1975 and in 1991. Although the Airport is just midway through the 20-year planning period of its current plan, many of the improvements recommended in the 1991 plan have been completed or are approaching implementation. The activity level at the Airport is also much different than that anticipated through the last planning process. Therefore, a new master plan is being developed. This will ensure that the physical improvements of the Airport keep pace with industry demands, University desires, certification requirements, and community constraints.

The two primary objectives of the Ohio State University Airport Master Plan during this plan update process are to:

- 1) Review the applicability of the proposals from the 1991 plan to current needs and desires.
- 2) Outline land use patterns of the Airport to maximize its potential, and to conform to the surrounding community.

Specific issues to be analyzed include the following:

- 1) The renovation/modernization of the south terminal area, taking into account such facilities as a new terminal building, new hangars, and secured parking.
- 2) The development of the north property in an effort to maximize the use of the proposed north runway extension in a manner compatible with the surrounding land use patterns.
- 3) The incorporation of enhanced security measures into the Airport's existing and new facilities.

To meet these objectives and address the specific needs of the Ohio State University Airport, the master plan incorporated a series of analyses, including the following:

- Inventory of Existing Facilities
- Projections of Aviation Demand
- Demand/Capacity Analyses and Determination of Facility Requirements
- Identification and Evaluation of Alternatives
- Environmental Review
- Development of an Airport Layout Plan set
- Financial Feasibility Analysis

The analyses undertaken in the master plan were coordinated with an advisory committee consisting of Airport users, representatives of state and federal aviation regulatory agencies, University officials, the Airport staff, and the community. Taking into consideration the opinions of the committee members, the recommendations of the master plan were tailored to meet the specific needs of both the business and pleasure Airport users, while conforming to established state and federal guidelines and recognizing the concerns of local community interests.

Public information workshops were also conducted during the development of the master plan to ensure that the public was informed of the goals of the study, key findings of the analyses, and the final recommendations. Throughout the study process, public involvement and input were critical to the analyses and influenced the formation of the final recommendations. These workshops also ensured that the concerns of the public were aired prior to and throughout the Airport plan development.