

COUNTY OF NAPA
CONSERVATION, DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING DEPARTMENT
1195 THIRD ST., SUITE 210
NAPA, CA 94559
(707) 253-4416

Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration

1. **Project Title:** Napa County Airport Master Plan Update.
2. **Property Owner:** County of Napa
3. **Contact person and phone number:** Sean Trippi, Principal Planner, 253-4417, strippi@co.napa.ca.us
4. **Project location and APN:** The Napa County Airport is located approximately one-mile west of the intersection of State Highways 12 and 29, approximately five miles south of the Napa city limits, and approximately one-half mile north of the American Canyon city limits. The airport includes 14 parcels consisting of approximately 800 acres within the Airport: Airport Compatibility (AV:AC) and Industrial: Airport Compatibility (I:AC) zoning districts. APN's: 057-040-006; 057-050-009, 011, & 012; 057-090-063 & 064; 057-210-029 & 059; 058-060-011; and, 058-070-003, 008, 013, 014, 015, & 026. Napa.
5. **Project Sponsor's Name and Address:** Napa County Airport, 2030 Airport Road, Napa CA, 94559; Contact: Martin Pehl, Airport Manager.
6. **Hazardous Waste Sites:** The project is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.
7. **Project Description:** The overall project is to implement the goals and objectives of the Airport Master Plan by planning for and constructing elements necessary to accommodate air traffic and Airport-related development during the next 10 years. The Airport Master Plan is intended to be a 20-year planning document in which projected needs and facility requirements are identified. The Napa County Airport Master Plan update, replaces and updates the previous master plan adopted in 1991. The projects proposed to implement the goals and objectives of the Airport Master Plan include extending runways and taxiways, improving a runway safety area, constructing perimeter security fencing, acquiring property for an Runway Protection Zone (RPZ), and providing improved ground access over Fagan Creek via a new bridge.

The master plan also addresses the need for and identifies possible locations to construct new aircraft hangars, expansion of existing fixed base operators and leasehold areas for new fixed base operators, and replacing the existing terminal. However, it is unclear at this time how, if, or when these buildings will be constructed. The timing of construction of additional aircraft storage hangars and fixed base operator facilities will be dependant upon demand. As such, subsequent development is speculative and potential development areas are shown on the site plan for master site planning and illustrative purposes only. Additional review of subsequent development will be required to evaluate potential environmental impacts.

Taxiways 'J' and 'C' Extensions

There are two primary purposes to extend the taxiways:

- Extend Taxiway 'J' to tie with Runways 36L and 6-24 (2,500 feet). The project includes the extension of Taxiway 'C' (360 feet) between Runway 6-24 and the proposed extension of Taxiway 'J'.
- An extended Taxiway 'J' will provide aircraft access to the proposed hangars and aircraft parking along the southeastern portion of the Airport.

The taxiway extensions are needed to:

- Accommodate hanger development on the southeastern portion of the Airport.
- Accommodate the increasing prevalence of larger business jets.
- Improve the efficiency of airport operations.

Runway Safety Area: Runway 6

The primary purpose of this project is to begin to meet current FAA standards for Airport Reference Code (ARC) C-II facilities. Napa County Airport is currently an ARC C-II facility for Runway 6. An ARC C-II airport is required to provide Runway Safety Areas (RSA) at the end of each runway. The RSA is needed to provide a measure of safety in the event of an aircraft excursion from the runway by significantly reducing the extent of personal injuries and aircraft damage during overruns, undershoots and veer-offs. The current FAA standard for an ARC C-II RSA is 500 feet wide by 1,000 feet long. Currently the Runway 6 RSA is about 200 feet long and 450 feet wide.

The proposed project does not increase the current dimensions; it provides a graded area at the end of the Runway 6 that is constrained by its location near the western Airport boundary.

Extend Runway 36R

There are two primary reasons to extend Runway 36R (850 feet):

- To reduce congestion and delays on Runway 18R-36L (main runway);
- Reduce the frequency of over flights of residential areas located west of the Airport.

Perimeter Fencing

The primary purpose of the perimeter fencing is to provide increased security around the western portions of the Airport, areas adjacent to public property that have not historically been fenced. The chain-link fence limits access by unauthorized personnel and alerts Airport management to their presence. Napa County began construction of a complete perimeter fence in 2003. A discontinuous perimeter fence existed prior to September 2001, primarily along the eastern side of the Airport. Between 2002 and 2005, the Airport constructed the fence along the northern, southern and portions of the western property boundary. The fence, when completed will serve as a security element and will prevent wildlife (primarily deer) from entering active portions of the Airport.

Property Acquisition – Borges Atkins Property

The primary purpose to acquire the Borges-Atkins property is gain land use control over the parcel which lies south of the Airport between the FAA tower and Runway 36L. This 25.4-acre parcel is needed to ensure that there are no land use conflicts within the 34:1 approach slope in the Runway Protection Zone (RPZ) for Runway 36L. Napa County has a legal obligation via their grant assurances (FAA) to ensure land use compatibility through zoning. Therefore, to bolster the need for the project under FAA AC150/5300-13, paragraph 212, the FAA recommends control of the RPZ through the acquisition of sufficient property interest in the RPZ to prevent incompatible object and activities. Acquisition of the property will satisfy FAA requirements.

Widen Airport Road and Bridge over Fagan Creek

The primary purpose of this project is to widen the existing 24-foot wide bridge over Fagan Creek, Airport Road, which serves as the primary surface transportation access to the Airport. The widening project is needed to meet the design requirements of Napa County and CalTrans to include a bridge width of at least 45 feet to accommodate increased traffic and bike lanes.

8. **Additional Environmental Review:** In addition to environmental analysis in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Airport Master Plan is also subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). NEPA compliance is required when any federal action has the potential to impact the human environment. The federal action in this case is the Federal Aviation Administrations (FAA) review and approval airport improvements specified in the Master Plan and FAA funding for those improvements. The FAA is the federal lead agency for the proposed action. In accordance with NEPA, an Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared by Jim Wallace Consulting Services, dated January 2008. This Mitigated Negative Declaration and the EA jointly analyze the potential environmental impacts of the proposed Airport Master Plan. The draft EA, dated January 2008, is attached to this document for additional information.

PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION:

The Conservation, Development and Planning Director of Napa County has tentatively determined that the following project would not have a significant effect on the environment and the County intends to adopt a **mitigated negative declaration**. Documentation supporting this determination is contained in the attached Initial Study Checklist and is available for inspection at the Napa County Conservation, Development and Planning Department Office, 1195 Third St., Suite 210, Napa, California 94559 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:45 PM Monday through Friday (except holidays).

DATE: February 22, 2008


By: Sean Trippi

WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD: March 3, 2008 to April 11, 2008

Please send written comments to the attention of Sean Trippi at 1195 Third St., Room 210, Napa, California 94559, or via e-mail to strippi@co.napa.ca.us. A public hearing on this project is tentatively scheduled for the Napa County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, April 15, 2008. You may confirm the date and time of this hearing by calling (707) 253-4416.