



Agenda

AIRPORTS COMMITTEE

May 8, 2019

11:00 A.M.

Director of Airports Office
550 Sally Ride Drive, Concord

Supervisor Diane Burgis, Chair
Supervisor Karen Mitchoff, Vice Chair

Agenda Items:

Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee

Present: Diane Burgis, Chair
Karen Mitchoff, Vice Chair

1. Introductions

Vice Chair Supervisor Mitchoff welcomed the attendees.

2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to three minutes)

There was no public comment.

3. Review and approve record of meeting for February 13, 2019 (Chair)

February 13, 2019 minutes were approved. Yes: Chair Supervisor Burgis and Vice Chair Supervisor Mitchoff, No: none; absent: None.

AYE: Chair Diane Burgis, Vice Chair Karen Mitchoff
Passed

4. Receive an update from the Aviation Advisory Committee Chair (Maurice Gunderson)

AAC Chair Maurice Gunderson gave an update on several airport related topics that included: airport noise outreach, non-aviation commercial development at Buchanan Field, Byron Airport General Plan Amendment (GPA), and proposed Byron Airport public viewing plaza.

5. Discuss progress regarding the Byron Airport General Plan Amendment (Will Nelson, Department of Conservation and Development)

Staff reported that the Administrative Draft of the Environmental Impact Report is out for County review; however, is deficient in several areas – most notably in the transportation and biological sections. Airport staff are considering reducing the list of desired land uses to those most likely to proceed in order to have more realistic and obtainable mitigation measures. This will likely delay the project approximately six months. County staff are planning to meet with consultant, Dudek, to discuss the discrepancies and the best ways to mitigate them.

6. Discuss resolution of crane height issues at Buchanan Field associated with Highway 4 project

In February, Air Traffic Control Tower staff became concerned when they noticed a large crane go up adjacent to Buchanan Field Airport. The crane is associated with the Highway 4 widening project. Being a safety concern, ATCT and Airport staff worked with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Contra Costa Transit Authority, Caltrans and the contractors to successfully limit the maximum height of the crane so it did not impact airport operations during the two-year project.

7. Discuss JetSuiteX passenger traffic growth between 2016 and 2019

Airport staff presented a graph with JetSuiteX's passenger growth from 2016 to present. Staff reported JetSuiteX had their highest passenger count in the first two months of 2019. Staff continue to have discussions with JetSuiteX staff about adding new flight destinations from Buchanan Field Airport.

8. Discuss recent FAA grant funding issues related to Runway 14L/32R pavement rehabilitation project

The Board of Supervisors (Board) approved Airport staff to apply for a grant to pave and rehabilitate Runway 14L/32R at Buchanan Field Airport in December of 2016. Recently, there has been changes to FAA regulations which has created issues related to FAA funding and the runway project. Airport staff were notified by the FAA that they would be reducing portions of the runway project they would pay for, which would ultimately increase costs for the airports. Airport staff presented a lower cost alternative which the FAA found acceptable. The project has been delayed, but staff anticipate the project to begin towards the end of this year, or spring 2020.

9. Discuss new UAS (drone)/technology business activity at Buchanan Field and Byron Airports

Airport continues to market Buchanan Field and Byron Airports to various drone/technology businesses. A San Francisco based startup tech company is in the final stages of purchasing a building located on the west side at Buchanan Field Airport. Airport staff are putting a working group together to discuss new ways to market the airports to attract more drone/technology aviation businesses.

10. Discuss the State Water Quality Control Board Water Code Section 13267 Order WZ 2019-0005-DWQ for the Determination of the Presence of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) Substances at Buchanan Field Airport

Airport staff were recently advised by the State Water Board via letter that firefighting foam, which is required by the FAA to be used at commercial service airports, contains Per and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The State Water Board has advised all commercial airports to produce a work plan which would include ground water analysis to determine the presence of PFAS. Unless granted an extension, airports must submit a work plan within 60 days of receipt of the letter, then a full analysis in six months. Staff are working with County Counsel and Mead & Hunt Associates to develop an initial investigation work plan.

11. Airport Director's Report (Items 11.a through 11.e)

36-acre non-aeronautical development project, Byron Airport

Airport staff are working with the developer and FAA to release 36-acres at Byron Airport from aviation to non-aviation use. Staff expects to submit the land release packet to the FAA around mid-June.

3-acre business park development, Buchanan Field

This parcel is located on the northeast corner of Marsh Drive and Sally Ride Drive at Buchanan Field Airport. The developers are anxious to break ground and are in the final stages of the environmental review process. They plan to break ground in June 2019, but that will ultimately depend on when the environmental review is complete, and permits are issued.

4.6-acre development, Buchanan Field

This property is located at the northwest corner of Marsh Drive and Solano Way. About 80% is within the City of Concord and 20% is within the County. There was not much to report other than developers, Deutscher and The Claremont Companies LLC, are in the beginning stages and are in the process of completing the geotechnical work. They expect to submit building plans to the City of Concord within the next couple of months.

Proposed relocation of Confire Station 9 to Airport property, Buchanan Field

Confire Station 9 is planning to relocate to airport property on the west side at Buchanan Field around Center Avenue and Willow Street. They are currently in the environmental review and entitlement processes and expect to be done by the end of the calendar year, with hopes of breaking ground next year.

This vacant property is located on the west side at Buchanan Field Airport. Airport staff are working closely with consultants Kimley-Horn and Associates on a land release proposal package for FAA approval to release the land for non-aviation use. On May 7th, the Board approved an Exclusive Negotiating Rights Agreement with Montecito Commercial Group to market the property, secure a tenant, undertake the environmental review, and develop the property.

12. Future agenda items

None specified.

13. The next meeting is currently scheduled for August 14, 2019

14. Adjourn

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Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.

For Additional Information Contact:

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