

INTRODUCTION

The Hollister Municipal Airport Master Plan study has been undertaken to evaluate the airport's capabilities and role, to forecast future aviation demand, and to plan for the timely development of new or expanded facilities that may be required to meet that demand. The ultimate goal of the Master Plan is to provide systematic guidelines for the airport's overall maintenance, development, and operation.

The Master Plan is intended to be a proactive document which identifies, and then plans for, future facility needs well in advance of the actual need for the facilities. This is done to ensure that the City of Hollister can coordinate project approvals, design, financing, and construction in a timely manner prior to experiencing the detrimental effects of inadequate facilities.

An important result of the Master Plan is reserving sufficient areas for future facility needs. This protects development areas and ensures they will be readily available when required to meet future needs. The intended result is a detailed land use concept which outlines specific uses for all areas of airport property.

The preparation of this Master Plan is evidence that the City of Hollister recognizes the importance of air transportation to the community and the associated challenges inherent in providing for its unique operating and improvement needs. The cost of maintaining an airport is an investment, which yields impressive benefits to the community. With a sound and realistic Master Plan, Hollister Municipal Airport can maintain its role as an important link to the



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national air transportation system for the community and maintain the existing public and private investments in its facilities.

MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of the Hollister Municipal Airport Master Plan is to develop and maintain a financially feasible long term development program which will satisfy aviation demand and be compatible with community development, other transportation modes, and the environment. The accomplishment of this objective requires the evaluation of the existing airport and a determination of what actions should be taken to maintain an adequate, safe, and reliable airport facility to meet the air transportation needs of the area. The completed Master Plan will provide an outline of the necessary development and give responsible officials advance notice of future needs to aid in planning, scheduling, and budgeting.

Specific objectives of the Hollister Municipal Airport Master Plan are:

- To preserve and protect the City's investment in the airport;
- To enhance the safety of aircraft operations;
- To obtain socioeconomic factors likely to affect the air transportation demand in the Hollister area;
- To determine projected needs of airport users through the year 2025 by which to support airport development alternatives;

- To recommend improvements which will enhance the airport's capacity (airside and landside);
- To evaluate development options for all quadrants of the airport, potential land acquisition needs, and environmental considerations of development;
- To evaluate possible long term acquisition measures needed to satisfy environmental concerns and promote orderly airport growth;
- To produce current and accurate airport base maps and Airport Layout Plans;
- To establish a schedule of development priorities and a program for the improvements proposed in the Master Plan Update;
- To prioritize the airport capital improvement program, and examine potential funding sources; and
- To develop active and productive public involvement throughout the planning process.

The Master Plan will accomplish these objectives by carrying out the following:

- Determining projected needs of airport users through the year 2025;
- Identifying existing and future facility needs;
- Evaluating future airport facility development alternatives which will optimize airport capacity and aircraft safety;
- Developing a realistic, common-sense plan for the use and/or expansion of the airport;
- Developing land use strategies for the use of airport property;

- Developing compatible land use strategies;
- Establishing a schedule of development priorities and a program for improvements;
- Analyzing the airport's financial requirements for capital improvement needs and grant options;
- Coordinating this Master Plan with local, regional, state, and federal agencies; and
- Developing active and productive public involvement through the planning process.

MASTER PLAN ELEMENTS AND PROCESS

The Hollister Municipal Airport Master Plan is being prepared in a systematic fashion following Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) guidelines and industry-accepted principles and practices. The Master Plan for Hollister Municipal Airport has six general elements which are intended to assist in the discovery of future facility needs and provide the supporting rationale for their implementation. **Exhibit A** provides a graphical depiction of the Hollister Municipal Airport Master Plan process and elements.

Element One encompasses the inventory efforts. The inventory efforts are focused on collecting and assembling relevant data pertaining to the airport and the area it serves. The inventory effort collects information on existing airport facilities, operations, and control. Local economic and demographic data is collected to define the local growth trends. Planning studies which

may have relevance to the Master Plan are also collected. Information collected during the inventory efforts is summarized in Chapter One, Inventory.

Element Two examines the potential aviation demand for commercial air service and general aviation activity at the airport. This analysis utilizes local socioeconomic information, as well as national air transportation trends to quantify the levels of aviation activity which can reasonably be expected to occur at Hollister Municipal Airport through the year 2025. The results of this effort are used to determine the types and sizes of facilities which will be required to meet the projected aviation demands for Hollister Municipal Airport over the next 25 years. The results of this analysis are presented in Chapter Two, Aviation Demand Forecasts.

Element Three comprises the facility requirements analysis. The intent of this analysis is to compare the existing facility capacities to forecast aviation demand and determine where deficiencies in capacities (as well as excess capacities) may exist. Where deficiencies are identified, the size and type of new facilities to accommodate the demand are identified. The airfield analysis focuses on improvements needed to serve the type of aircraft expected to operate at the airport and navigational aids to increase the safety and efficiency of operations. This element also includes a determination of passenger terminal building and general aviation facility needs. The findings of this analysis will be presented in Chapter Three, Facility Needs Evaluation.

Element Four considers a series of reasonable solutions to accommodate the projected facility needs. This element proposes various facility and site plan configurations which meet the projected facility needs. A thorough analysis is completed to analyze the strengths and weaknesses of each proposed development alternative with the intention of determining a single direction for development. Chapter Four, Airport Development Alternatives, comprises the results of the work efforts given to completing this element.

Element Five includes two independent, yet interrelated, work efforts: a capital implementation program and airport plans. This element will comprise Chapters Five and Six of the Master Plan. Chapter Five provides both a graphic and narrative description of the recommended plan for the use, development, and operation of the airport. Specifics on environmental concerns and compatible land use strategies are also provided. Appendix B to the Master Plan includes the official Airport Layout Plan (ALP) and detailed technical drawings depicting related airspace, land use, and property data. These drawings are used by the FAA in determining grant eligibility and funding. Chapter Six focuses on the capital needs program which defines the schedules, costs, and funding sources for the recommended development projects.

COORDINATION

The Hollister Municipal Airport Master Plan is of interest to many within the local community. This includes local citizens, community organizations, airport users, airport tenants, area-wide

planning agencies, and aviation organizations. As an important component of the regional, state, and national aviation system, the Hollister Municipal Airport Master Plan is of importance to both state and federal agencies responsible for overseeing air transportation.

To assist in the development of the Hollister Municipal Airport Master Plan, the City of Hollister identified a cross-section of community members and interested persons to act in an advisory role in the development of the Master Plan. As members of the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC), the committee members reviewed phase reports and provided comment throughout the study to help ensure that a realistic, viable plan was developed.

To assist in the review process, draft phase reports were prepared at three milestones in the planning process as shown previously on **Exhibit A**. The draft phase report process allowed for input and review during each step within the Master Plan process to ensure that all Master Plan issues were fully addressed as the recommended program was developed.

A series of public information workshops were also included as part of the plan coordination. The public information workshops allowed the public to provide input and learn about general information concerning the Master Plan.

The Master Plan data was also placed on the World Wide Web for viewing at anyone's leisure. Users of the web site were able to submit comments and view the materials given to the PAC and City for review.

