SUMMIT PLANS FOR FUTURE OF REGIONAL AVIATION

Aug. 10, 2007 (Arlington) - Long-term growth and development of the aviation industry, including general aviation and heliport development, is critical to the regional economy. As the nation’s largest non-border port of entry, North Central Texas relies on the aviation system to connect it to the nation and to the globe, including both business aviation and air cargo connections. Maintaining the efficiency of the general aviation and heliport system requires that current and future system needs be assessed.

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) has initiated a Regional General Aviation and Heliport System Plan update. This multi-year process, funded by the Federal Aviation Administration, will allow the region to assess the inventory of general aviation and heliport facilities in the 16-county region and forecast future demand.

On Aug. 21, NCTCOG will host a first-of-its-kind Aviation Summit to engage airport managers, aviation professionals, pilots, and elected officials in the planning process. Topics will include:
- Growth and development in North Central Texas and its impacts on general aviation
- Aviation industry trends (small, single pilot aircraft; labor market trends; encroachment)
- Vertical Flight opportunities
- Airport business planning
- Aviation impacts of the 2011 Super Bowl

The morning agenda will include discussion of all these topics by speakers and panels. There will also be a limited number of break-out sessions during lunch to focus on the impacts of specific trends.

Event Details
Date: Tuesday, Aug. 21
Time: 8 a.m. to noon, with an optional lunch event to follow
Place: Arlington Convention Center, 1200 Ballpark Way

Registration available online at www.nctcog.org/aviationsummit. Cost is $15 per person.

About the North Central Texas Council of Governments:
NCTCOG is a voluntary association of local governments established in 1966 to assist local governments in planning for common needs, cooperating for mutual benefit, and coordinating for sound regional development. NCTCOG's purpose is to strengthen both the individual and collective power of local governments and to help them recognize regional opportunities, eliminate unnecessary duplication, and make joint decisions.

NCTCOG serves a 16-county region of North Central Texas, which is centered on the two urban centers of Dallas and Fort Worth. Currently, NCTCOG has 233 member governments including 16 counties, 165 cities, 23 school districts, and 29 special districts.