

MEETING SUMMARY

Air Transportation Advisory Committee November 1, 2018

The Air Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC) convened at 1:00 p.m. on November 1, 2018, at NCTCOG Offices.

Voting Members in Attendance

Sharlette Wright, Chair, Cleburne
Regional Airport
Keith Barrett, Vice Chair, Caddo Mills
Airport
Joey Boyd, City of Rockwall (Remote)
Judy Demoney, Midway
Mark Divita, Grand Prairie Municipal
Airport
Scott Gray, Denton Enterprise (Remote)
Ty Helton, City of Greenville
Joel Jenkinson, Addison Airport
Linda Pavlik, Representing Ennis
Municipal Airport
Pat Stewart, Granbury Regional Airport
Karen VanWinkle, Arlington Municipal
Airport
Bill Welstead, City of Fort Worth
Wayne Sanderson, Mineral Wells Airport
Darrell Phillips, Dallas Executive,
Eric Pratt, Mesquite Metro Airport

Non-Voting Members in Attendance

Jeff Kloska, City of Fort Worth, Aviation

Others in Attendance

Brandon Bevel, Garver
Michael McAnally, Garver
Michael Mitchell, KSA Engineering
Mike Weatherford, TSA
Chris Whitfield, Lochner
Denton School District Representative

NCTCOG Staff in Attendance

Natalie Bettger
Ernest Huffman
Lisa Key
Ken Kirkpatrick
Chedel Townsend

Meeting Summary Outline

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Orientation to Agenda
3. Approval of August 2, 2018 ATAC
Meeting Summary
4. Airport Funding Update
5. NCTCOG Alliance Airport Funding
6. Meacham's Midfield Redevelopment
Project
7. DFW Airport Development
8. UAS Safety and Integration Initiative
9. Touch and Goes

1. Welcome and Introductions, Sharlette Wright, Chair

Sharlette welcomed all attendees and everyone introduced themselves.

2. Orientation to Agenda, Natalie Bettger, NCTCOG

Natalie provided an orientation to the agenda and noted that the WebEx was experiencing technical difficulty but that presentations would be posted on the ATAC webpage.

3. Approval of August 2, 2018, ATAC Meeting Summary, Sharlette Wright, Chair

The Committee was asked to approve a summary of the previous ATAC meeting. There were no comments and the summary was approved as submitted. Judy Demoney (M); Bill Welstead (S). The motion passed unanimously.

4. Airport Funding Update, Ernest Huffman, NCTCOG

Ernest presented an overall update on regional airport funding. He compared the Texas State funding for years 2016, 2017, and 2018, noting that the funding increased dramatically for 2018 to more than \$83 million. In addition to State funding, every funding segment increased in 2018 including Discretionary, Federal, and Non-Primary Entitlement (NPE). The majority of the Discretionary Funding was apportioned to North Central Texas, primarily the Fort Worth Airports system, as the project was “build ready.” Committee members noted that funds for Mesquite Metro Airport were not included in the State apportionments as well as funding for Arlington Municipal Airport, that was primarily NPE funding. NCTCOG staff will inquire about the reduction in apportionment funding the large NPE funding reductions from 2017.

NCTCOG’s regional airport grant amount is only 19% compared to the remainder of the state. TxDOT representatives will speak at the February 2019 ATAC meeting to discuss the reauthorization bill and supplemental funding.

5. NCTCOG Alliance Airport Funding, Ken Kirkpatrick, NCTCOG

Ken Kirkpatrick briefed the Committee on the long-standing funding partnership between NCTCOG and the Regional Transportation Council, with the City of Fort Worth and Alliance Airport, regarding the recently completed Alliance runway extension. NCTCOG staff want to ensure that members of the Committee have a full understanding of the background and context of this project and any potential implication to the FAA discretionary grant funds in the upcoming years.

Ken provided a high-level explanation of how funding was allocated with this funding strategy to break down funding silos between different transportation-related funding sources. NCTCOG staff stressed the importance of transparency about this agreement. Ken is available for any future questions on this topic.

6. Meacham Midfield Redevelopment Project, Jeff Kloska, Meacham International Airport

Jeff Kloska gave an overview of the ongoing development at Meacham Airport. A large portion of this project was funded with discretionary funding. New access roads and utility corridors will be funded with local funds from the City of Fort Worth. Once fully developed, the existing taxiway will be realigned and a new taxiway will be constructed to the east of the existing runway. Approximately 9.5 acres of pavement will be removed thereby eliminating an FAA Hot Spot and increasing the amount of leasable space.

7. DFW Airport Development, Jason Williams, DFW Airport

Jason presented airside construction projects at DFW Airport. Aging infrastructure is being reconstructed beginning with runway 17C/35C, which provides critically needed all-weather landing capacity and accommodates approximately 40% of operations. Reconstruction takes place primarily during nighttime hours so the runway can be open at all times during the day. DFW Airport engaged in a vigorous pilot awareness campaign to ensure all pilots were well informed of the runway realignment and reconstruction.

End-around taxiways are also being constructed to enhance safety, improve capacity, reduce arrival and departure delays during peak hours, and reduce arrival airspace delays. The Airport received a \$180 million Letter of Intent (LOI) Grant from the Department of Transportation/Federal Aviation Administration which is the largest LOI Grant ever awarded for an end-around taxiway system in the U.S. The end-around taxiway construction should be completed in FY 2021.

8. UAS Safety and Integration Initiative, Ernest Huffman, NCTCOG

Ernest updated the Committee on the UAS initiative noting that the task force members represent airports, military, public safety, industry, and local, state, and federal agencies, among others. The primary goal of the task force is to safely integrate UAS into the regional airspace. Components of the UAS Initiative include education, legislation, training, flight testing, and public awareness. The first meeting was October 23 with a focus on defining the task force structure and goals. The meeting was well attended by representatives from entities previously mentioned and by representatives from existing programs such as North Texas UAS WERX and others.

Next steps will include forming a task force coordination plan, mission statement, guidelines, and outreach plan, and defining workgroups and for the critical components. NCTCOG staff noted that the meetings are informal and anyone interested is welcome to participate.

The next state legislative session begins in January and NCTCOG staff is open to adding items to the transportation legislative agenda. Staff encouraged anyone with something to add to that agenda to please let us know. Legislative items will be coordinated through NCTCOG's legislative staff.

9. Touch and Goes, Committee and Staff

Karen VanWinkle, Arlington Municipal Airport, noted the flight test research facility for Bell Helicopter is located at Arlington Municipal Airport. Last Thursday, Bell hosted a reveal of their facility at Arlington Municipal and a demonstration of the new V-280 Valor, Bell's nextgen tiltrotor. The close partnership between Bell Helicopter and Arlington Municipal Airport has existed for more than 50 years.

Scott Grey, Denton Enterprise Airport, announced that next Monday the airport would host a runway ground breaking ceremony and invited anyone interested to attend. Scott noted that the runway should be completed next year.

Sharlette Wright, Cleburne Regional Airport, announced the 90th Anniversary of the airport with a Fly In scheduled for December 10 along with many other activities in celebration of this historic anniversary.

Ty Helton, City of Greenville, announced the Greenville Airport Fly In scheduled for the coming weekend and will be accompanied by many other activities throughout the City of Greenville.